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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND CHAPTER

OF

Royal Arch Masons

OF THE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

SAN FRANCISCO:

FRANK EASTMAN, PRINTER, 509 CLAY STREET.

1872.

Grand Chapter of California.

I, CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of California, do hereby certify that the following pages contain a true and faithful transcript of the proceedings of that Body, at its Eighteenth Annual Convocation, commenced at the city of San Francisco on Tuesday, the ninth day of April, A. D. 1872, A. I. 2402, and of the returns of the subordinate Chapters and other matters authorized to be published.



In Testimony Whereof,

I have hereunto appended my official signature, and have affixed the Seal of the Grand Chapter of California, this twenty-fourth day of April, A. D. 1872, A. I. 2402.

Chas. Louis Wiggin
Grand Secy.

100
100

Freemasons, California. Royal arch
masons. Grand chapter. 81227

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND CHAPTER

OF

Royal Arch Masons

OF THE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

AT ITS

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL CONVOCATION,

HELD AT THE

MASONIC TEMPLE, IN THE CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO,

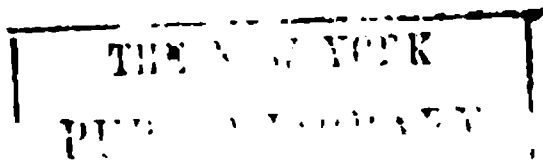
COMMENCED ON

TUESDAY, APRIL 9, A. D. 1872, A. I. 2402,

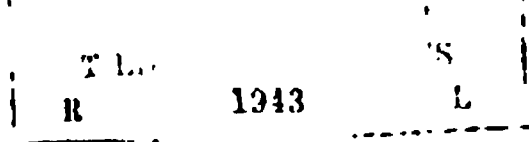
AND TERMINATED ON

FRIDAY, APRIL 12, A. D. 1872, A. I. 2402.

SAN FRANCISCO:
FRANK EASTMAN, PRINTER, 509 CLAY STREET.
1872.



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GRAND OFFICERS
OF THE
Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons
OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

*For the year commencing April, A. I. 2402, and ending April,
A. I. 2403.*

M.: E.: JACOB HART NEFF,.....GRAND HIGH PRIEST,.....*Auburn;*
R.: E.: JOSEPH ISAACS,.....DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIEST,..*Shasta ;*
R.: E.: WM. THOMAS REYNOLDS, GRAND KING,.....*San Francisco ;*
R.: E.: WM. ALEX. JANUARY,....GRAND SCRIBE,..... *San Jose ;*
R.: E.: JOS. BON. SCOTCHLER,....GRAND TREASURER,.....*San Francisco ;*
R.: E.: CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,..GRAND SECRETARY,.....*San Francisco ;*
E.: HENRY HAY KNAPP,.....GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE HOST,*Napa ;*
E.: NATHAN W. SPAULDING, GRAND ROYAL ARCH CAPTAIN,*Oakland ;*
Comp. IRA COLBURN ROOT,..... GRAND GUARD,.....*San Francisco.*

GRAND LECTURER:

M.: E.: THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL,.....*Nevada.*

GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL CONVOCATION.

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of California commenced its Eighteenth Annual Convocation at the Masonic Temple, in the city of San Francisco, on Tuesday, the ninth day of April, A. D. 1872, A. I. 2402, at ten o'clock, A. M.

Upon calling the roll of members there were found present the following—

GRAND OFFICERS:

The M.: E.: JAMES LAWRENCE ENGLISH,.....*Grand High Priest* ;
 “ R.: E.: JOSEPH ISAACS,.....*Grand Scribe* ;
 “ R.: E.: JOSEPH BONAPARTE SCOTCHLER,.....*Grand Treasurer* ;
 “ R.: E.: CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,.....*Grand Secretary* ;
 “ R.: E.: BENJAMIN AKERLY,.....*Grand Chaplain* ;
 “ R.: E.: WILLIAM EDWARD MOODY,.....*Grand Lecturer* ;
 “ R.: E.: WILLIAM THOMAS REYNOLDS,.....*Grand Royal Arch Capt.* ;
 Comp. IRA COLBURN ROOT,.....*Grand Guard.*

PAST GRAND OFFICERS:

The M.: E.: WILLIAM WILSON TRAYLOR,.....*Past Grand High Priest* ;
 “ M.: E.: THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL,..... “ “ “ “
 “ M.: E.: ISAAC SETVENE TITUS,..... “ “ “ “
 “ M.: E.: GEORGE TUTTLE GRIMES,..... “ “ “ “
 “ M.: E.: JOHN KIRKPATRICK,..... “ “ “ “
 “ M.: E.: CHARLES MARSH..... “ “ “ “

And the representatives of thirty-five chartered Chapters, with delegates from one under dispensation, together with a number of Past High Priests, by service under this jurisdiction, entitled to seats.

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1872

The Grand High Priest filled the vacant stations by the appointment of

The *M. E.* GEORGE TUTTLE GRIMES.....as*Deputy Grand High Priest* ;
 " *M. E.* THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL.....as.....*Grand King* ;
 Comp. WILEY JAMES TINNIN.....as.....*Grand Captain of the Host*.

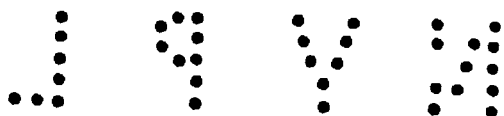
And there being a sufficient representation present, the Grand Chapter of California was opened in *Ample Form*, with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The Grand High Priest announced the following committee—

On Credentials :..... { Comp. William Wilson Traylor,
 " Powell Samuel Lawson,
 " William Thompson Luther.

After a brief recess the committee presented the following report of officers of the chartered Chapters, or their duly appointed proxies, and Past High Priests, by service within this jurisdiction, as being present and entitled to seats, viz : from

<i>San Francisco</i> ,...No. 1,....	{ THEO. ED. SMITH, High Priest and Past High Priest ; HENRY JAMESON BURNS, King ; LOUIS COHN, Past High Priest.	
<i>Sonora</i> ,.....No. 2,.....	ALVIN BACON PRESTON, King and Past High Priest.	
<i>Sacramento</i> ,No. 3,....	{ POWELL SAMUEL LAWSON, High Priest and Past H. P. ; JAMES LAWRENCE ENGLISH, Past High Priest.	
<i>California</i> ,.....No. 5, ...	{ JOHN FRANCIS SNOW, High Priest ; HIRAM THROOP GRAVES, King ; ALFRED COOLIDGE WAITT, Scribe ; ALEXANDER GURDON ABELL, CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, GEORGE TUTTLE GRIMES, WILLIAM THOMAS REYNOLDS, JAMES LAIDLEY, WILLIAM WILSON TRAYLOR, JOHN KIRKPATRICK, THOMAS KYLE,	} Past High Priests.
<i>Nevada</i> ,.....No. 6,....	{ TALLMAN HATHAWAY ROLFE, High Priest and P. H. P. ; THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL, Past High Priest.	
<i>Benicia</i> ,.....No. 7,.....	TIMOTHY SAGE, High Priest.	
<i>Shasta</i> ,.....No. 9,....	{ DANIEL POTTER BYSTLE, High Priest ; JOSEPH ISAACS, Past High Priest.	
<i>Sutter</i> ,.....No. 11,	HENRY PECK, High Priest and Past High Priest.	
<i>Washington</i> , .. No. 13,.....	MEYER A. MARCUSE, King.	
<i>Howard</i> ,.....No. 14,....	{ HENRY OLP WELLER, King ; WILLIAM ALEXANDER JANUARY, Past High Priest.	
<i>Cyrus</i> ,.....No. 15,.....	JOHN MORRIS WALBRIDGE, proxy for all the officers.	



- St. James*,.....No. 16,.... { GEORGE HEIRN GILBERT, High Priest and Past H. P. ;
 CHARLES FITZGERALD IRWIN, King ;
 FREDERICK FERDINAND BARSS, Past High Priest.
- Libanus*,.....No. 17,.....JAMES DODS, Past High Priest.
- Grass Valley*,....No. 18,.....REUBEN LEECH, High Priest.
- Trinity*,.....No. 19,WILEY JAMES TINNIN, High Priest and Past High P.
- Franklin*,.....No. 20,.....CHARLES FAYETTE LOTT, King and Past High Priest.
- Sierra*,.....No. 21,.....WILLIAM THOMPSON LUTHER, High Priest and P. H. P.
- Petaluma*,.....No. 22,.....BENJ. FRANKLIN TUTTLE, High Priest and Past H. P.
- Oliver*,.....No. 23,.....AMBROSE HALL COWDEN, proxy for all the officers.
- La Fayette*,.....No. 24,.....RICHARD MUNT, High Priest and Past High Priest.
- Georgetown*,.....No. 25,.... { HENRY WARREN RUSSELL, High Priest and Past H. P. ;
 WILLIAM ROUSH, } Past High Priests.
 JOHN ERNEST KUNKLER,
- Oakland*,.....No. 26,.... { GEORGE MANSFIELD BLAKE, High Priest ;
 JEREMIAH ELKEN WHITCHER, } Past High Priests.
 BENJAMIN AKERLY.
- Della*,.....No. 27,.....BENJ. FRANKLIN MYRES, High Priest and Past H. P.
- Stockton*,.....No. 28,.... { THOMAS KENT HOOK, High Priest ;
 EDWARD RICHARD HEDGES, } Past High Priests.
 ISAAC SUTVENE TITUS,
- Napa*,.....No. 30,.... { RALPH ELLIS, High Priest and Past High Priest ;
 HENRY HAY KNAPP, } Past High Priests.
 ROBERT CROUCH,
- Martinez*,.....No. 31,.....THOMAS ALLEN BROWN, Past High Priest.
- Los Angeles*,. ...No. 33,.... { JOHN QUINCY ADAMS STANLEY, High Priest ;
 HENRY SAYRE ORME, King.
- Alturas*,.....No. 34,.....NATHAN HOSMER STONE, High Priest.
- Naval*,.....No. 35,.....OSGOOD HILTON, High Priest.
- Alameda*,.....No. 36,.... { NATHAN WESTON SPAULDING, High Priest and P. H. P. ;
 JOSEPH BONAPARTE SCOTCHLER, Past High Priest.
- Siloam*,.....No. 37,.....JAMES BEVERLY HODGDON, Scribe.
- Santa Cruz*,.....No. 38,.....JOHN NELSON BESSE, High Priest and Past High Priest.
- Donner*,.....No. 39,.....JAMES H. HOADLEY, High Priest.
- Temple*,.....No. 41,.....JAMES MARTIN RODGERS, High Priest and Past H. P.
- Chico*,.....No. 42,.....CHARLES LEWIS POND, King and Past High Priest.
- Solano*,.U. D.,.... { WILLIAM SEWALL WELLS, High Priest and Delegate ;
 A. F. KNOBP, Delegate.

Which report was concurred in, and the companions therein named were admitted to seats.

Comp. THOMAS ALLEN BROWN, chairman of the Committee on Jurisprudence, was excused from further attendance upon the Grand Chapter at this Annual Convocation, important business requiring his presence elsewhere.

On motion, the reading of the minutes of the last Annual Convocation was dispensed with, printed copies being supplied to the members.

The Grand High Priest then delivered his Annual Address to the Grand Chapter of California, as follows :—

COMPANIONS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF CALIFORNIA :—

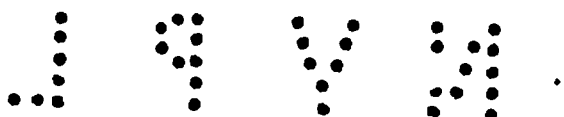
The circumstances under which we assemble at this, our Annual Convocation, are certainly most propitious. Peace and prosperity prevail throughout the land, and harmony and fraternity throughout our jurisdiction. During the past year nothing whatever has occurred to mar in the slightest degree that perfect accord which should ever exist amongst companions; but all seem actuated by the noble spirit of emulation as to who shall best work and best agree.

Immediately after the close of our last Convocation, I caused the Chapters which were chartered thereat to be duly constituted and their officers installed. For this purpose I specially deputed the M. E. CHARLES MARSH, Past Grand High Priest, to constitute *Donner* Chapter, No. 39; the R. E. JOSEPH ISAACS, Grand Scribe, to constitute *Red Bluff* Chapter, No. 40; the E. JOHN NELSON BESSE, High Priest, to constitute *Temple* Chapter, No. 41, and the E. GEORGE CLEMENT PERKINS, Past High Priest, to constitute *Chico* Chapter, No. 42; all of whom have made due reports of their having performed the respective duties assigned them.

I also took from the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer bonds for the faithful discharge of the duties of their respective offices; which bonds I now present to the Grand Chapter.

At the last Convocation I was authorized, either in person or by the appointment of a competent deputy, to investigate all matters in connection with the financial transactions of the Grand Secretary's office, and to take any measures I might deem necessary for the recovery of any portion of the deficit of that officer. Upon examination it was found that the books of the Grand Chapter had not been written up for ten years, and that no record existed of the receipts and disbursements of the Grand Secretary. The only entries to be found were those shown by the receipt and order books. It being impossible for me to make the necessary investigation in person, I deputed Comp. WILLIAM E. MOODY, a competent accountant, to make a thorough investigation as to the receipts and disbursements of the late Grand Secretary, from the commencement to the termination of his official connection with the Grand Chapter, and to prepare a statement thereof. This he has done, under my superintendence and direction, and the result of his labors is presented herewith.

From this statement it will be seen that the receipts acknowledged by the late Grand Secretary amount to the sum of \$41,039, whilst his actual receipts were \$42,404, having received the sum of \$1315, of which he had rendered no account. This \$1315 was received by him in and after the year 1864, at which time it appears the defalcation commenced. The result shows that the various committees on finances since that date, until the last, did not thoroughly discharge their duty. Your last Committee on Finance reported the deficit, from the best information at their command at the time, to be \$5777 17, but the thorough investigation which has been made shows that it was \$3594 81; \$1000 of which was recovered during the last Convocation, and \$422 80 has since been paid over to the present Grand Secretary, leaving the amount of the deficit \$7172 31. Inquiry satisfied me that the pecuniary situation of the late Grand Secretary was such that nothing further could possibly be obtained from him, and since then his physical constitution has become so completely shattered that, in my judgment, there is no hope that anything more will ever be recovered from him. Charges were preferred against him in the Lodge of which he was a member, and he now stands expelled from all the rights and privileges of Masonry. The investigation showed that only the following subordinate



Chapters were in arrears: *Sacramento*, No. 3, in the sum of \$184 ; and *Libanus*, No. 17, in the sum of \$85 ; both of which have settled in full with the present Grand Secretary ; and *Quincy* Chapter, No. 32, to which special reference will be made. I would respectfully recommend that an appropriation be made to compensate Comp. MOODY for his services in making the investigation, which I deemed it necessary should be thorough, in order that we might know precisely the relation of each of the subordinates pecuniarily to the Grand Chapter.

I have issued two dispensations for the forming and opening of new Chapters—one at Suisun City, Solano County, to be called *Solano* Chapter ; and one at Visalia, Tulare County, to be called *Visalia* Chapter. The papers upon which these dispensations were issued will be laid before you by the Grand Secretary, in whose office I caused them to be filed.

Donner Chapter, No. 39, having failed, in consequence of the destruction of their hall by fire, to elect their officers at the time appointed by our Constitution, I issued to them on the first day of February last, a special dispensation authorizing them to hold an election on the sixth day of that month, at which time new officers were chosen.

I have approved various amendments to the By-Laws of subordinate Chapters, all relating either to the time of meeting or the subject of dues. These will be laid before you by the Grand Secretary for your action thereon.

Having been officially notified that *Sonora* Chapter, No. 2, at a stated meeting held on the 31st day of May last, in order to carry out the design of the Grand Chapter, to consolidate *Columbia* Chapter, No. 8, with that Chapter, had duly resolved that the meetings of the Chapter should be held in the hall occupied by *Columbia* Chapter, No. 8, for one year, and until the united membership of said Chapters should otherwise determine ; and that *Columbia* Chapter, No. 8, at a stated meeting held on the fifth day of June last, had, for the same purpose, duly resolved to surrender its Charter, subject to the provisions and requirements of the resolution of the Grand Chapter, I did, on the fourteenth day of August last, in order to effect the consolidation of said Chapters in accordance with the resolutions of the Grand Chapter, issue an order directed to whom it might concern, declaring the consolidation of *Columbia* Chapter, No. 8, with *Sonora* Chapter, No. 2, accepting the surrender of the charter of *Columbia* Chapter, No. 8, and authorizing the officers thereof to turn over its property of every description to *Sonora* Chapter, No. 2, and authorizing the last named Chapter to hold its meetings for one year, and until the united membership shall otherwise determine, in the hall which had been occupied by *Columbia* Chapter, No. 8. It affords me great pleasure to report to you that the anticipations of the companions particularly interested therein have been fully realized by the consolidation, and that the Chapter has had a season of unwonted prosperity.

Upon two occasions, Comp. WM. E. MOODY, Grand Lecturer, not being able to respond to calls for instruction, I specially authorized the M. E. GEORGE T. GRIMES, Past Grand High Priest, to visit and lecture the Chapters seeking instruction. These were *Washington* Chapter, No. 13, and *Los Angeles* Chapter, No. 33.

Various questions have been submitted to me from subordinate Chapters and their officers, all of which were answered as speedily as possible. There are none, however, that I deem of sufficient importance to report specially to the Grand Chapter.

I lay before you the report of the Grand Lecturer for the past year. You will observe that he expresses the opinion that the greater part of the subordinate Chapters are not working as prescribed by the Grand Chapter ; suggests that some means should be adopted to effect a uniformity of work, and makes some recommendations to that end. Without endorsing the particular recommendations made, I would say that it is certainly very desirable that as complete a uniformity of work should be established and preserved as it is possible to accomplish. A continuance of perfect

uniformity is not to be expected without the most diligent and constant attention. Changes will occur in its transmission, and without unremitted exertion in that direction, in a few years the alterations become great. I would respectfully call your attention to the subject, that you may, in your wisdom, adopt such measures as will be best calculated to accomplish so desirable an object.

The General Grand Chapter of the United States held its Twenty-First Triennial Convocation on the nineteenth day of September last. This Grand Chapter was represented thereat by the *M. E.* CHARLES MARSH, Past Grand High Priest, as the proxy of all our officers entitled to seats in that august body.

I have the pleasure to communicate to you the gratifying intelligence that the difficulties which have heretofore prevailed in the State of Delaware, growing out of the former existence in that State of bodies claiming to be Grand Chapters thereof, have been adjusted ; and that a Grand Chapter has been formed under the authority of the General Grand Chapter, to which all the subordinates in the State acknowledge allegiance—thus restoring entire harmony among the Royal Arch Masons of that jurisdiction. This was one of the States which had not recognized the authority of the General Grand Chapter. The Grand Chapter of Florida also, which had not previously recognized the authority of the General Grand Chapter, has accepted its invitation to become a constituent member thereof, and has resolved to bear in future allegiance thereto. It also appears that the Grand Chapters of the States of Iowa and Vermont have rescinded their acts of secession, and have returned to their allegiance. Similar action was proposed in the Grand Chapter of North Carolina, at its Convocation in 1871, and will be taken up for final consideration in the Convocation of the present year. Should the action of North Carolina be favorable, which the proceedings in its last Convocation would indicate, the only Grand Chapters in the United States not acknowledging the authority of the General Grand Chapter will be those of Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Rhode Island, and Texas, which seceded, and those of Pennsylvania and Virginia, which never recognized its authority. Active efforts are being made to bring all into the one fold, and the success of those efforts is but a question of time.

The amendment to the Constitution making all Past Grand High Priests of the constituent Grand Chapters members of the General Grand Chapter, was adopted.

Important action was also had relative to the ritual of the Royal Arch degree, which will be communicated to you by the *M. E.* CHARLES MARSH, Past Grand High Priest, who represented us at the Convocation.

The resolution adopted by the General Grand Chapter, in 1856, recommending “Grand Chapters and the subordinate Chapters under its jurisdiction to abridge the ceremonies of the Past Masters’ degree within the narrowest constitutional limits, only retaining the inducting of the candidate into the Oriental Chair, and the communicating of the means of recognition,” was rescinded.

I would call your special attention to the resolution adopted by the General Grand Chapter on the recommendation of its Finance Committee : “That the State Grand Chapters throughout the jurisdiction be requested to cause to be paid annually to the General Grand Secretary of this General Grand Chapter, the sum of one cent for each Royal Arch Mason borne upon the rolls of their subordinates at the date of their annual reports ; the fund so created to be used to defray the necessary expenses of the General Grand Chapter.”

The General Grand Chapter also provided that substitutes in the Royal Arch degree *may* be authorized by Grand Chapters ; but at the same time they earnestly urge subordinate Chapters to use full classes of actual candidates, except in cases of emergency. Under this permission it is for this Grand Chapter to determine whether or not the subordinates in this jurisdiction shall be authorized to use substitutes. It is much to be regretted that WEBB and his associates succeeded in establishing the present Chapter system of the United States, it being an entire innovation upon the body of Masonry as previously constituted ; but that system has been adopted, not

only by the Grand Chapters which originally formed the General Grand Chapter, but also, I believe, by those which did not acknowledge its authority. That the genius of the institution as now taught requires a full class of actual candidates, there can be no question. The only object in making use of substitutes is to hasten the advancement of the actual candidates ; and it may well be questioned whether such employment, instead of impressing the candidates favorably with the sublimity of the work in which they are engaged, has not directly the effect of detracting from the exalted character of the degree. What is it to wait weeks, months, or even years for the degree ? The fact that it is difficult to be obtained—that time and preparation are necessary will only enhance its value—whilst hastening its reception, by the use of means foreign to its teachings, is only calculated to cheapen it. If you should determine to allow the use of substitutes in any case, I would respectfully recommend that provision be made that they shall only be used upon a dispensation being obtained therefor from the Grand High Priest. The General Grand Chapter earnestly urges the use of full classes of actual candidates, except in cases of emergency ; and experience has taught us all that subordinates are too apt to conceive every case where a candidate is ready for a degree, to be one of emergency, and if they are to be the judges, the use of substitutes will be unrestricted. If, however, a dispensation shall be required, the Grand High Priest can determine, from all the facts and circumstances which it will be necessary to lay before him, whether the case is one calling for the exercise of his dispensing power.

In January last, I received from the Grand Master of Masons in California, the *M.* W. LEONIDAS E. PRATT, an invitation to the Grand Chapter to attend at the ceremony of the laying of the corner-stone of the new City Hall of the City and County of San Francisco, on the 22d day of February last, which invitation I accepted on behalf of the Grand Chapter, and caused all the officers and members and subordinate Chapters of our jurisdiction to be notified thereof and invited to attend. The ceremony was very interesting ; and though the attendance of the Masonic Fraternity was very large, that of the Grand Chapter was so small, a quorum not being in attendance, that it was not opened. The companions, however, took the place assigned them in the procession.

All the subordinate Chapters under our jurisdiction are in a healthy and prosperous condition, except *Quincy* Chapter, No. 32. From that Chapter no returns have been received since 1870, and communications directed to the officers thereof, by our Grand Secretary, elicit no response. It would appear that owing to the removal of many of the companions, members of the Chapter, a sufficient number to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, are not now residents of the vicinity of Quincy, its place of meeting ; and though an election for officers was regularly held at the stated meeting next preceding the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist, in 1870, yet the officers then elected have never been installed ; neither has any meeting of the Chapter been held since that time. I have been unwilling to arrest the charter of the Chapter, as I possessed the constitutional authority to do in my discretion upon this state of facts, because members of the Chapter who are residents of Susanville, in the county of Lassen, have been desirous that the place of meeting of the Chapter should be changed from Quincy to Susanville, at which point, they feel confident, the Chapter would not only be sustained, but flourish. Efforts have been directed to securing a meeting of the Chapter, that the officers last elected might be installed and a resolution passed requesting the Grand Chapter to change the place of meeting as proposed ; but owing to the lengthened illness of Comp. JOHN S. WARD, of Susanville, a member of the Chapter who was directing those efforts, a meeting has not yet been secured. In this state of facts I would respectfully recommend that the Grand Chapter change the place of meeting of the Chapter from Quincy to Susanville, and that the Grand High Priest elect be authorized to take such measures in his discretion as will secure a meeting of the Chapter at the place last named, and an election and installation of new officers.

I take great pleasure in acknowledging to you the kindness and consideration of JOHN P. JACKSON, Esq., President of the California Pacific Railroad, and of the Hon. LELAND STANFORD, President of the Central Pacific and Southern Pacific Railroads, and subsequently of the California Pacific also, in extending to me, as your Grand High Priest, the courtesy of free passes over all their railroad and steamboat routes in the State.

Having thus presented a written report of all my official acts during the past year, and of the condition of Royal Arch Masonry within our jurisdiction, together with such recommendations as I deem conducive to the prosperity and advancement of the Order, I close, trusting that nothing may occur to disturb in the slightest degree the harmony of our deliberations, and that they may be productive of nothing but benefit to the Craft.

JAMES LAWRENCE ENGLISH,
Grand High Priest.

On motion, it was ordered that the Address of the Grand High Priest should be referred to a special committee of three.

The Deputy Grand High Priest named as such committee—

On Address of Grand High Priest :.... { Comp. Joseph Bonaparte Scotchler,
" George Heirn Gilbert,
" Charles Lewis Pond.

Comp. CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, from the Committee on Correspondence, presented the following report, the reading of which was dispensed with, the members being furnished with printed copies :—

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of California :—

Your Committee on Correspondence respectfully report that the transactions of the following Grand Chapters have been received, viz :—

ALABAMA, .....for Dec.,....1870	MISSISSIPPI, for Jan.,... 1871
CANADA, " Aug.,....1871	MISSOURI, " Oct., ....1871
CONNECTICUT, " May,....1871	NEBRASKA, " June,.. 1871
DELAWARE, " Jan.,....1871	NEW HAMPSHIRE,..... " May, ....1871
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, " May, ....1870	NEW JERSEY,..... " Sept., ... 1871
FLORIDA, " Jan., ....1871	NEW YORK,..... " Feb.,....1871
GEORGIA, " April....1871	NORTH CAROLINA,.... " June,... 1871
ILLINOIS, " Oct.,... 1870	NOVA SCOTIA,..... " April,...1871
IOWA, " "1871	OHIO,..... " Sept.,...1871
KANSAS, " "1871	OREGON,..... " June,....1871
KENTUCKY,..... " "1871	PENNSYLVANIA,..... "1870
LOUISIANA,..... " Feb.,....1871	RHODE ISLAND,..... " Mar.,....1871
MAINE,..... " May,....1871	SOUTH CAROLINA,.... " Feb.,....1871
MARYLAND, " Nov.,....1871	TENNESSEE, " Nov.,....1871
MASSACHUSETTS, " Dec.,....1870	TEXAS, " June, ...1871
MINNESOTA, " Jan., ....1871	WISCONSIN, " Jan., ....1871

—And also those of the General Grand Chapter at its twenty-first Triennial Convocation held in the city of Baltimore, in the month of September, 1871.

It affords your committee great pleasure to report that the transactions of all the Grand Chapters reviewed by them bear evidence of continued prosperity and success ; and even from those States where so lately the desolating hand of war, with fire and sword, laid waste their tabernacles and destroyed their altars, come to us the glad tidings that peace and prosperity once more prevail. *Laus Deo.*

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

The General Grand Chapter of the United States of America held its twenty-first Triennial Convocation in the City of Baltimore, commencing on Tuesday, September nineteenth, A. L. 2401, A. D. 1871, the *M. E.* JAMES M. AUSTIN, General Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* JOHN D. CALDWELL, of Ohio, being General Grand Secretary. Twenty nine Grand Chapters were represented at the opening, being an increase of seven upon the number represented at the last Triennial Convocation. The absentees were Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Oregon, and Texas.

The General Grand High Priest delivered an able and interesting address, the most of which is of general interest to the Craft and particularly interesting to Californians, as showing the progress and condition of Royal Arch Masonry in our neighboring States and Territories. Although somewhat lengthy, we feel assured that our companions will excuse us for making liberal extracts from so excellent a paper :—

MOST EXCELLENT AND RIGHT EXCELLENT COMPANIONS: At the close of another triennial period in the history of this venerable body—a period which I may be allowed to remark has been fraught with more encouraging circumstances, having in view its future stability and prosperity, than any other similar time—I offer you my personal and official greeting, and feel that I am but expressing your sentiments when I say, that our most devout acknowledgments and thanks are due to the Father of all Mercies, not only for the protection afforded to our labors, but that on this occasion so many of us are spared to unite in the duties of this Convocation. I greet and welcome you, coming from every part of the broad domain of our common country, to this beautiful city, once the home of the devoted and lamented GILMAN, and express the hope that his spirit and the interests committed to our care, may preside during our meeting and incite us to labor, that out of our deliberations may come a determination to make deeper and broader our foundations, and so correct the lines of our building that generations yet to come may admire its symmetry, and be encouraged in their efforts for its perpetuation. I greet you as the representatives not only of the Royal Craft, but as having in charge the honor and continuance of its national organization ; as bound by the very fact of your appointment and presence here, to rightly appreciate the value of that organization, and to devote your efforts to such measures as may tend to increase its influence as one of the leading Masonic powers in the world, around which are grouped the various organizations under your immediate direction, and to which they look for such guidance as may tend best to make their zeal effective, and promote and magnify the character of Royal Arch Masonry.

I have great pleasure in being able to say to you, that not only have peace and harmony prevailed among us during the interval since our last meeting, but that a more correct appreciation of the merits of an organization embracing every part of the Republic, and equally efficacious in the North, the South, the East, and the West, has prevailed ; that not only have we increased and multiplied with equal pace from the lakes to the gulf and between the two oceans, but that your government now includes companions whose homes are in far-off lands and in the distant isles of the sea, and who, in those homes, raise the living arch, where, but a brief time since, the worship of false gods and the observances of heathenism held sway ; and I urge upon you to remember, in your deliberations, the serious nature of the trust reposed in you, the vast interests that depend upon your wise use of the opportunities now at your disposal.

After paying a fraternal tribute to the memory of FRENCH, PENN, and HILLYER, he says :—

At the last Triennial Convocation, in September, 1868, certain matters were intrusted to your General Grand High Priest, with power to determine the same.

Among the first to demand my attention was, to examine into the condition of the Grand Chapter of Delaware, and, if found to be a legal Grand Chapter, to have the same enrolled under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, as requested by the companions of Delaware.

Having been solicited to visit Wilmington, for the purpose of instituting *St. John's* Chapter, which had been chartered by this body at its last Convocation, I did so on the 19th day of October, 1868, and, having instituted said Chapter, embraced that opportunity to fully investigate the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the State, and for that purpose I held interviews with some of the most prominent Royal Arch Masons in the jurisdiction. From those companions, and from the records, I ascertained that there had existed in Delaware no regular Grand Chapter since the year

1856, at which time the original Grand Chapter ceased to meet and elect Grand Officers. I ascertained that there had been a "Convocation of Royal Arch Masons" at Dover, in 1859, at which meeting but one Chapter in the three then existing in that State was legally represented. At that irregular "Convocation" an election was had, Comp. GEORGE W. CHAYTOR being elected Grand High Priest. No other Convocation of the (so-called) Grand Chapter was held until January, 1868, a period of nine years. During this time Comp. CHAYTOR claimed to be Grand High Priest, but he persistently refused to assemble the Craft in Grand Convocation. Some three or four years subsequent to the meeting of 1859, a difficulty having arisen between Comp. CHAYTOR and the other members of *Washington* and *La Fayette* Chapter, No. 1, of which he was then High Priest, he, in his capacity of Grand High Priest, declared the said Chapter suspended—thereby placing himself in the anomalous position of a self-suspended Royal Arch Mason; that is, provided he possessed any powers as Grand High Priest.

At the meeting in January, 1868, there was simply an assemblage of Royal Arch Masons, no one of whom claimed to act in a representative capacity. Comp. CHAYTOR was present, but he refused to open a Grand Chapter, giving as a reason that his Chapter was under suspension, and therefore there were but two Chapters left in the State. Thereupon the assemblage resolved itself into a "Royal Arch Convention," and proceeded to elect Grand Officers and to adopt a Constitution, and this was the body which made application at the last Convocation of the General Grand Chapter to be recognized as the "Grand Chapter of the State of Delaware."

With these facts before me, there was but one conclusion to which I could legitimately arrive. Accordingly, on the 20th of October, 1868, I issued an edict, declaring that any legal existence heretofore attaching to a Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Delaware had ceased; that said State Grand Chapter no longer existed; and that the several Chapters heretofore holding under it had become dormant from non-user and other reasons, and that, by the fact of the cessation of the Grand Chapter of the State of Delaware, all semblance of lawful governmental authority in that State had ceased, and the territory had become Masonically vacant; and therefore the authority of the General Grand Chapter of the United States did, of right, obtain, and was in full force and effect in said State of Delaware.

Thereupon, I did order and direct that the three Chapters which had formerly held under the Grand Chapter of Delaware, should be received and recognized as lawful Royal Arch Chapters, under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, with authority to resume and continue work under the warrants then held by them, until the pleasure of the General Grand Chapter was made known, or a State Grand Chapter was formed.

On the 9th day of January, 1869, upon application duly made, and under the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, I issued an edict granting permission for the formation of a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Delaware; and upon the 20th day of January, 1869, the legal representatives of the four Chapters in said State assembled in Convention at Dover, and proceeded to organize in due form a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for said State of Delaware, and to adopt a Constitution for the government thereof. I availed myself of an invitation to be present at said Convention, and had the honor of installing the newly-elected Grand Officers; and I did then and there receive and welcome the said Grand Body into the family of Grand Chapters. Subsequently, to wit, on the 30th of January, 1869, I did, by special edict, order and direct that said Grand Chapter of the State of Delaware be enrolled under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and be hailed and recognized accordingly.

We have quoted this portion of the General Grand High Priest's Address in full, for the reason that the course pursued in the formation of the Grand Chapter of Delaware has been bitterly animadverted upon in certain quarters where love for the General Grand Chapter is not extensively cherished, and we are glad of the opportunity to place before our readers the facts in the case as represented by the General Grand High Priest.

The following decision was announced: M. F. TRUETT, a "Past Master Mason," was expelled from all his rights and privileges as such, by *Helena* Chapter, U. D. TRUETT appealed to the General Grand Chapter, which body referred the matter to the General Grand High Priest, with power to act. The decision of that officer is couched in the following language:—

From the documents placed in my hands, I became satisfied that there had been great irregularities committed in the proceedings during the trial of the accused, which would have warranted the setting aside of the verdict; but my decision was based upon the principle that a Chapter U. D., being but a "temporary and inchoate

body," which exists only during the will and pleasure of the Grand Officer who brought it into being, and which he may dissolve at any time. It possesses no power to try or discipline its members. It was therefore ordered that the proceedings of *Helena* Royal Arch Chapter, U. D., in expelling M. F. TRUETT from his rights and privileges as a "Past Master Mason," be set aside as irregular, and be declared null and void; and that said brother be restored to all his rights and privileges of a Past Master Mason, and to the position which he held in said Chapter at the time said charges were preferred against him.

We are perfectly well aware of the futility of discharging the feeble catapult of our dissent against the mighty bulwark of a General Grand High Priest's decision, especially when that decision is final and admits of no appeal; but to dissent is the privilege of the humblest, and we wish most respectfully but emphatically to place upon that decision the stamp of our disapproval. We can not agree with the General Grand High Priest that a Chapter U. D. is a "temporary and inchoate body." It has, for the time being, a complete organization, and possesses all the powers and prerogatives of a chartered and duly constituted Chapter, so far as the making of Royal Arch Masons is concerned; and we hold that a body having the power to make Masons, should have power to discipline or unmake them when found to be unworthy. It is true that a Chapter U. D. "exists only during the will and pleasure of the Grand Officer who brought it into being"; but the same rule will apply to a chartered Chapter, which can exist only during the will and pleasure of the Grand Body whose creature it is, and whose existence may even be temporarily stifled by the Grand High Priest himself during the intervals of the Convocations of the Grand Chapter. Had the General Grand High Priest taken the trouble to consult us in the matter, we should have advised him to reverse the action of that Chapter upon the ground of the irregularities in the proceedings at the trial, rather than in accordance with a principle so unsound as that upon which he acknowledges his decision to have been based.

In the report of the committee to whom the Address of the General Grand High Priest is referred, the matter is thus briefly disposed of:—

The matter of the Grand Chapter of Delaware and the case of M. F. TRUETT, were referred by the General Grand Chapter at its last Convocation to the M. E. General Grand High Priest, with power, and, therefore, his action in the premises is final.

The committee express no opinion as to the correctness of the decision.

He reports having issued the following dispensations to form and open new Chapters since the last Triennial Convocation: To *Seattle* Chapter, at Seattle, Washington Territory; *Wyoming* Chapter, at Cheyenne, Wyoming Territory; *Cyrus* Chapter, at Silver City, Idaho Territory; *Boise* Chapter, at Boise City, Idaho Territory; *Honolulu* Chapter, at Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands; *Keystone* Chapter, at Shanghai, China; *White Pine* Chapter, at Hamilton, Nevada; *Walla Walla* Chapter, at Walla Walla, Washington Territory; and *Pueblo* Chapter, at Pueblo, Colorado Territory.

In answer to a question, he decides "that the General Grand Chapter has never ceased to exist, and continues the existence it has always held." He reports that Florida has united with the family of Grand Chapters under the general head, and that Iowa, Vermont, and North Carolina have returned to their allegiance. He makes an eloquent and able appeal to the companions for the continuance of the General Grand Body, which doubtless had its effect, as the report of the committee recommending its continuance was adopted; and we sincerely hope that, before another Triennial Convocation shall be holden, every Grand Chapter in the Union will be enlisted under one banner, and that the General Grand Chapter, taking a "new departure," will make its influence felt for good throughout the Masonic world.

On the proposition to abolish the degree of "Past Master," four States only voted in the affirmative, viz: Kansas, Missouri, Ohio, and Tennessee—Ohio casting two affirmative and two negative votes.

The amendment to the Constitution, making all Past Grand High Priests of State

Grand Chapters members of the General Grand Chapter, was adopted. The following resolutions were wisely adopted, by a vote of ninety-one to thirty :—

Resolved, That this General Grand Chapter decides that the use of substitutes is not in violation of the ritual of Royal Arch Masonry, or the installation charges delivered to a High Priest, and that substitutes may be authorized by Grand Chapters working under this jurisdiction.

Resolved, That while such is the interpretation of the ritual and installation charges by this Grand Body, Chapters are fraternally and earnestly urged to use full classes of actual candidates, except in cases of emergency, for the best interests of Royal Arch Masonry.

The resolution adopted by the General Grand Chapter at its Triennial Convocation held at Hartford, in 1856, recommending "Grand Chapters and the subordinate Chapters under its jurisdiction to abridge the ceremonies of the Past Master's degree within the narrowest constitutional limits, only retaining the inducting of the candidate into the Oriental Chair and the communicating of the means of recognition," was rescinded. We are glad to learn that this embargo upon the solemn and impressive ceremonies of the Past Master's degree is thus removed, and that, in future, candidates may enjoy the full benefit of the important lessons taught in this interesting degree.

A resolution was adopted taxing the State Grand Chapters the sum of *one cent* for each Royal Arch Mason borne upon the rolls of their subordinates, to defray the necessary expenses of the General Grand Chapter.

Comp. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, of Maine, was elected General Grand High Priest; Comp. ELBERT ENGLISH, of Arkansas, Deputy General Grand High Priest; Comp. CHARLES H. ORR, of Maryland, General Grand King; and California was honored by the election of our well-beloved Comp. CHARLES MARSH, Past Grand High Priest, as General Grand Scribe. We trust that Comp. MARSH will bear his "blushing honors" meekly, and that the "solid chunks of wisdom" which he must have acquired from his late association with the great Masonic lights of the Union may be disseminated for the benefit of his less favored companions.

Comp. CHRISTOPHER G. FOX was elected General Grand Secretary; address, Buffalo, N. Y.

ALABAMA.

The Grand Chapter of Alabama held its forty-fourth Annual Convocation in the city of Montgomery, commencing on the sixth day of December, 1870, the *M. E.* H. CLAY ARMSTRONG, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* DANIEL SAYRE being Grand Secretary.

The Address of the Grand High Priest represents the condition of the Royal Craft as flourishing throughout the jurisdiction: "Peace, prosperity and harmony," he says, "prevail, and the lights are burning brightly upon our altars."

He pays a glowing tribute to the memory of the *R. E.* Companion E. M. HASTINGS, who for twenty years had been Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter, and who died on the 20th day of May, 1870.

Sundry decisions are rendered, in all of which we heartily concur, and we desire to ejaculate an especial amen to the following paragraph :—

The power to grant dispensations is a prerogative not to be lightly exercised—certainly not merely for the convenience of individuals, but only in cases of necessity clearly made out, and when it is made manifest that the good of the Craft would be promoted thereby.

One dispensation was granted to form a new Chapter, and one special dispensation to a Chapter to hold an election for officers at a time other than that prescribed by the Constitution.

The attention of the Grand Chapter is called to the fact that a Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Michigan had been suspended by a subordinate Chapter for violating an edict of that Grand Body relative to the circulation of keys. The Grand High Priest thinks all such offenders should be expelled. We concur. The

tendency of the age is manifestly toward Masonry made easy, and if this tendency is not checked by the strong hand of authority, the result will be most disastrous. We have often heard of these so-called keys, but we have never seen one, nor have any, to our knowledge, been circulated in this State; a dealer in such wares would speedily come to the conclusion that this is an excellent country to emigrate from.

The following question from a subordinate Chapter was referred to a special committee at the last Annual Convocation: "Has the Grand Chapter either the right or the power to compel the observance of any ceremony in conflict with any conscientious scruples of any party against whom it is proposed to be enforced?" The committee submitted their report, and, as some discussion has been had upon this point in our own jurisdiction, and the report of the committee coincides exactly with our views, we give it entire:—

"The committee will not consider this as an abstraction, but practically as connected with the case upon which the inquiry is predicated, and out of which it arises.

"It would be ruinous to our masonic organization, and introduce anarchy and confusion, to allow subordinate officers to disregard the work and ceremonies established by the Grand Body to which such officer, when he becomes a Mason, as well as at the period of his installation, pledges cheerful obedience. The distinction between the principal officer or body, and the subordinate, must be preserved, or the organization must fail. If a party in conforming to the behests of the Grand Chapter under which he is working, imagines that it involves a matter of principle to which he is conscientiously opposed, he may refuse to conform to it at the peril of being tried for recusancy; and if the Chapter to which he belongs allows its officers, respectively, to be the judges of the work, and whether it squares with their respective conscientious scruples, thus disregarding the work of the Grand Chapter, which alone has the right to declare what the work shall be, when in session, and the enforcement of which during the vacation between its convocations it entrusts to the most Excellent Grand High Priest, the Chapter itself becomes recusant, and is liable to be dealt with by the Grand Chapter.

Your committee deem this a sufficient response to the inquiry presented to them; only adding, that Masonry, when properly understood, in none of its departments makes any requisition which contravenes the enlightened consciences of men."

The report on correspondence is again from the pen of Comp. P. J. PILLANS, and presents an interesting *resume* of the proceedings of thirty-four Grand Chapters, our own included. Comp. PILLANS makes his *conge* as if it were his intention to lay down the pen, and surrender to other hands the labor which he has for several years so faithfully performed; we hope if our worthy companion has come to this determination, that he may be induced to reconsider it, for we can ill afford to lose from the field of correspondence a writer of Bro. PILLAN's experience and ability. Sixty-two chartered Chapters are borne upon the roll, with an aggregate membership of twenty-one hundred and eighty-four. The Convocation occupied three days, and the Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were both reelected.

CANADA.

The Grand Chapter of Canada held its fourteenth Annual Convocation in the city of Hamilton, on the ninth day of August, A. D. 1871, the M.: E.: T. DOUGLAS HARRINGTON, Grand Z., presiding, the R.: E.: THOMAS BIRD HARRIS being Grand Scribe E., or Grand Secretary.

The Grand Z., in his Address, represents the condition of Royal Arch Masonry as most satisfactory; and judging from the reports of the Grand Superintendents of the several districts, we think our Canadian Companions have reason to congratulate themselves upon the flourishing state of the Order in that jurisdiction. The Grand Z. alludes to the unfortunate difficulties and complications arising from the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Quebec in the following language:—

I think of but one other subject which I conceive it to be my duty to allude to. Last year I had to do so. I mean the unfortunate difficulty connected with Craft Masonry in the Province of Quebec, and which, it is greatly to be lamented, has not yet been satisfactorily terminated, as all true Masons must wish and pray for. Of course you all know to what my present allusion points, and this continued discord and state

of misunderstanding is exercising baneful influence on our Order. Royal Arch Masonry is indirectly affected by it, and it is well calculated to do, and is doing injury in many ways. That the Grand Lodge of Quebec is an accomplished fact, it would be absurd to ignore. It has been unconditionally recognized by some twenty-three Grand Lodges already, and that other Grand Bodies will pursue a like course, I entertain no doubt. This is not a question for Grand Chapters to discuss, but it is my duty to inform you that I received a very courteous and fraternal communication in my capacity of your Grand First Principal, from the M. W. Grand Master of Quebec, who is likewise a member of high standing of this Grand Chapter, notifying officially the existence of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and seeking for amicable and free intercourse, to which I replied in a similar spirit; and these letters are, of course, ready to be laid before you. I am quite without information from the Grand Lodge of Canada. I had given to me, from more than one quarter, clear testimony that bitter feelings were beginning to be engendered among our Royal Arch Masons, at Montreal especially, and that, greatly to their discredit, they were threatening to use, if not actually doing so, the ballot-box as an instrument of strife! This I was resolved to render nugatory if possible, so far as Capitular Masonry was concerned, and it was partly in consequence of this that I granted dispensations for the two new Chapters in that city, the respective petitions coming to me from companions on the one part favorable, and the other hostile to the Grand Lodge of Quebec. I believe I did right, and that I am justified by the result.

Of course, an Address of this kind is not the document for the insertion of details—going before the outside world as it will do like its predecessors—and I would probably have been silent on the subject, only that as the principle of having a Grand Lodge for each Province of the Dominion has, we all know, been in a measure acknowledged and assented to, it really becomes simply a question of time as to the formation of separate Grand Chapters, and when the limit of our jurisdiction will be still more curtailed. It is the wisest course to look this contingency full in the face, and when that time does arrive, carry out the change in a truly Masonic and fraternal way—giving and receiving, bearing and forbearing, making mutual concessions if needful, and avoiding heartburnings and strife, scorning wordy warfare, but wishing instead God speed and prosperity to all concerned.

It is marvellous to me that any Royal Arch Mason can so far forget that (in my eyes) “*ne plus ultra*” obligation which he has voluntarily pledged himself to fulfil as a Master Mason, as to lose sight of the Five Points of Fellowship especially, and their full and entire significance, and more particularly when we call to mind that the Royal Arch is said to be the perfection of the third degree of Craft Masonry.

If but the half has been said in bitterness that is reported to have been uttered, in consequence of the Quebec difficulties, which after all originated in a difference of opinion, it is a discredit to the parties using such language, and a scandal to Masonry—that is all I can say—and I thus record my conviction.”

We cannot see the propriety of discussing the merits of this much vexed question in the Grand Chapter; on the contrary, we fear such a course will have a tendency to introduce a disturbing element into the now harmonious Councils of the Royal Craft, and engender there those feelings of bitterness which now unfortunately appear to exist in the halls of the symbolic Lodges. We agree with the committee to whom was referred the Address of the Grand Z., who in the closing paragraph of their report, say:—

“Your Committee are of opinion that no good object can be secured by the discussion in this Grand Chapter of the difficulties thus unhappily existing, or of their causes; but they would desire to urge upon all members of Grand Chapter, in their individual capacity as Masons, to use their influence and counsel towards the restoration of thorough and complete Masonic harmony in the Province of Quebec, that our Masonic edifice may indeed be complete, and that the capstone of Peace may crown the Arch of Masonry with all its attendant blessings—and that Peace, Love and Harmony, may ever prevail amongst all our members.

We devoutly hope, that before the Grand Chapter of Canada shall hold its next Annual Convocation, all existing difficulties will have been settled and Peace and Harmony prevail.

The Report on Correspondence is again presented by Comp. HENRY ROBERTSON, and is an able review of the proceedings of thirty-one Grand Chapters, including California for 1871.

By the tabular statement from returns for the year 1871, it appears that the number of Chapters now on the roll is 44; represented in Grand Chapter, 39; registrations and exaltations, 352; joinings, 69; withdrawals, 79; suspensions, 11;

deaths, 21; members on roll of Chapters, 1814. Receipts for the year, \$1615 91; expenditures, \$754 63; balance, \$861 28. Previous balance on hand, \$1327 07. Leaving cash now on hand, \$2188 35.

The Grand Z. and the Grand Scribe E. were both reelected.

CONNECTICUT.

The Semi-annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut was held in the city of Meriden on the first day of November, 1870. Twenty-two Chapters were represented, and the work and lectures in the several degrees were exemplified under the supervision of the Grand Officers. No business of general interest was transacted.

The seventy-third Annual Convocation was held in the city of New Haven, commencing on the ninth day of May, 1871,—the M.: E.: JOHN H. BARLOW, Grand High Priest, presiding, the R.: E.: JOSEPH K. WHEELER being Grand Secretary.

The Grand High Priest, in his Address, says: "I have the pleasure to inform you that since our last annual convocation nothing has occurred to mar the harmony and prosperity of the several Chapters in this jurisdiction; all, so far as I have been able to learn, are pursuing the even tenor of their way, dispensing Masonic light and knowledge to the worthy and well qualified." He notices in appropriate terms the death of the venerable Comp. ELIPHALET G. STORER, who for nearly a quarter of a century filled the office of Grand Secretary, and says: "His voice and pen are silent; but in the annals of Masonry in Connecticut it can be truly said, He being dead, yet speaketh."

The reports of the Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, and Grand Scribe show that the Royal Craft in Connecticut is in a flourishing and prosperous condition.

The thanks of the Grand Chapter were voted to the Grand High Priest for the zealous and faithful manner in which he had discharged the duties of his high office.

The report of the Finance Committee shows a balance in the treasury of \$103 23.

The Report on Correspondence is again from the pen of Comp. LUKE A. LOCKWOOD, and is an able and interesting review of the transactions of thirty-six Grand Chapters, California for 1870 being among the number. He speaks of the assumption of jurisdiction over the Cryptic degrees by the Grand Chapter of Canada, quoting the following portion of the Grand High Priest's Address:—

And while on this topic, I have to suggest to Grand Chaptefs to consider the necessity and propriety of working the degrees of "*Royal and Select Masters*," as practiced in the United States of America, and known as "Cryptic" Masonry. These degrees should seem to be proper appendages to Grand Chapter and Royal Arch Masonry, and are interesting, if not absolutely necessary. But it would obviously be preferable for Grand Chapter at once to assume the government, and grant warrants, which action, when three or more subordinate Councils spring into life, will result in the regular organization of a Grand Council for Quebec and Ontario, and thus place the degrees on a correct and prosperous footing.

Of the above somewhat singular recommendation he says:—

This is certainly a novel way of organizing a Grand Council. The Grand Chapter assumes the government of degrees *unknown to it*, grants warrants, and forms at least three Councils, and then, presto change—the illegitimate children repudiate their parent and establish a sovereign body of their own. Such unnatural *assumption* should meet with just such a *reward*.

Why not let the warrants for Councils be obtained from the legitimate governing power of Cryptic Masonry and then form a new Council? As well might a Grand Lodge assume control of Capitular Masonry, issue warrants for Chapters, and when these have thus sprung into being they can form a Grand Chapter.

In reviewing the transactions of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, he mildly rebukes Comp. MASON for some of his wild utterances, as follows:—

We wish our excellent companion had omitted his, to say the least, ungracious notice of two of our New York companions, both of whom are widely known and esteemed in every jurisdiction. We trust it was but a passing cloud, and believe our companion now wishes it were unwritten. We cannot commend the following:—

"Having read more than forty addresses of Grand High Priests at the opening of Annual Convocations, we have been struck with the decided similarity of ideas, and

particularly with the opening sentences. Several of them have an opening salutatory to the Craft, couched in whining cant and commonplace platitudes, such as have been handed down with traditional accuracy from time immemorial. Nine have the opening substantially the same, and five have it *verbatim et literatim*. If the man is living who invented the original Grand High Priest's address, and he will write to us, we will get him a patent for his invention in the U. S. Patent Office here, to prevent others from stealing his thunder. If he is dead, and it is conceded that the address killed him, let his heirs apply. The author will unquestionably say,—

“ ‘He steals my purse steals trash;
’Twas mine, ’tis his; it has been food for thousands;
But he that robs me of my WHINING CANT
Takes what enriches not himself, but makes me poor indeed.’ ”

We think this stricture unjust and wholly uncalled for. The addresses which we have read have surprised us in the ability, fervor, intelligence, and eloquence displayed. That there should be a similarity in expression, by different persons upon the same subject-matter, is not to be wondered at, but to call the usual recognition of the goodness and watchful care of the Great I Am, and the usual congratulations of companions “whining cant” or “common-place platitudes” is a sad abuse of terms.

Will not our distinguished companion, happily residing so near the Patent Office and the office of Librarian of Congress, immortalize his genius for originality by preparing something in the way of a Grand High Priest's address, the like of which has never been seen or heard? We assure him a patent or copyright, either of them, will amply protect him from theft and piracy.

We rejoice with him on the completion of the Masonic Temple at Washington, and believe a “Royal Arch welcome will there be extended to all.”

He refers to Comp. CORSON, of New Jersey, in the following kindly terms:—

“We had read so much of him in the other reports before reaching New Jersey, that we were prepared for anything but what we find it actually to be, a very sensible, instructive, and readable paper. He has the faculty of interspersing wit and wisdom, and it is evident that he is only facetious in order to relieve the monotony of dry reports. One cannot, however, help wishing at times that he had omitted an occasional sparkle which would do well enough for badinage of conversation, but not suited for print.

Of Nova Scotia he says:—

M. E. Alexander Keith was reelected Grand High Priest, and James Gossip Grand Secretary. We observe there is no *Deputy Grand High Priest*.

It is gratifying to observe how nearly like the Grand Chapter of the United States this new Grand Chapter is organized and administered.

A praiseworthy Report on Correspondence, reviewing fifteen Grand Chapters, (Connecticut, we are sorry to say, not included.) is given by E. Companion J. Conway Brown, who, we are pained to see, is only 18° above zero. We knew it was cold in Halifax, but hardly expected to see it so low as 18° in the month of June, although it is only 32° in South Carolina.

The work practiced in Nova Scotia is the same as that in this jurisdiction.

In reviewing the transactions of the Grand Chapter of Rhode Island, he thus speaks of the right of the Grand High Priest to make Royal Arch Masons “at sight:”

An amendment to the Constitution was offered to prevent the Grand High Priest from making Royal Arch Masons “at sight.” It was lost by a vote of twenty-seven to six.

If any such authority exists in the Grand High Priest, it is not easy to see how any constitutional enactment could prevent its exercise. If it does not exist, it is equally as difficult to see how it can be conferred. It is, if anything, a prerogative, a personal privilege existing in the Grand High Priest by virtue of his office. In our opinion, this is but an exercise of the Grand High Priest's power to grant dispensations; nine companions are present and they are, by the Grand High Priest, formed into a Chapter under dispensation, himself being the warrant, and when the work is finished in the usual manner, not by communication, but as in any Chapter, the dispensation is revoked, and the Chapter is dissolved by virtue of the same power which constituted it. However, your committee cannot perceive that any emergency could arise which would make the exercise of this power desirable or necessary.

In this jurisdiction we recognize no such right or prerogative as inherent in Grand High Priest or Grand Master.

Comp. Lockwood sums up the result of his explorations into the field of Masonic literature, in the following sensible remarks:—

Notwithstanding the labor of your committee in examining the proceedings of so many Grand Chapters, your committee cannot but express the great pleasure derived

from perusing the many beautiful and ennobling thoughts and valuable suggestions everywhere displayed in the proceedings. It is a matter of surprise that there should be so little and comparatively unimportant differences of opinion upon the principles and laws of the Royal Craft. No doubt the uniformity in substance of the Ritual, and the interchange of ideas through the Reports on Foreign Correspondence, has had much to do with this enviable condition. Upon the subject of the General Grand Chapter, there is a diversity of opinion. We think the position of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut is correctly stated as follows:—

She acknowledges her allegiance to the General Grand Chapter; she respects its Constitution and all of its edicts in conformity therewith; she asserts her authority as supreme within her territorial jurisdiction, in all matters not embraced in its Constitution; she approves of the General Grand Chapter exercising exclusive jurisdiction in unoccupied Masonic territory; she believes that as an advisory body, and as furnishing a common altar for the representatives of the various Grand Chapters, and affording an opportunity for a free and full oral discussion of all important Masonic subjects by the best minds in the country, the General Grand Chapter is performing, and will perform its only legitimate and wholesome functions. We are not prepared to extend her powers further than above indicated.

There is very general discussion upon the questions whether an appeal, *per se*, stays the sentence of a Chapter. The argument on the one hand seems to be that unless such appeal does stay proceedings, the innocent may suffer the effect of a sentence which the Grand Chapter might, on appeal, set aside as unjust. On the other hand it is contended that the finding of guilty by the Chapter, is conclusive, until reversal, and that the opposite view would permit an expelled member to sit in the Chapter after he had been decided unworthy.

The better opinion seems to be that such appeal does not stay the sentence, unless upon cause shown on appeal the Grand High Priest should grant such stay until the hearing on appeal. This course will save the innocent, in doubtful cases, from injustice, and in a clear case save the Chapter from an offensive and obnoxious presence.

We find also a difference of opinion on the question whether it is right to employ substitutes. All agree that the denial of such right will, in many instances, operate as almost a prohibition, and practically close the Chapters in sparsely populated districts.

The only objection to their use which is strongly pressed, is that it is a violation of the O. B. This turns simply on the use of the words "persons" or "brethren," instead of "candidates." As we were taught, it is persons. The argument in favor of the use of substitutes is—

1. Its *expediency*, in many instances amounting to a *necessity*, as above indicated.
2. Its antiquity and long established usage.
3. The intention of the requirement is fully answered as well with one or two substitutes as with three *candidates*.

We are taught that there is no requirement in Masonry which is purely arbitrary; but that, as might naturally be inferred from every work of its wise author, everything was fitted and framed with design, and for some good purpose. It is true, many times we may not be able to discover any such design, but we think hardly any one would be bold enough to assert that therefore there is no such design.

Why was the number three fixed upon? We venture to suggest in response to this inquiry, so far as it is proper so to do in writing, that the grand central point, and the object of the Mason's work through all the degrees, and the final reward he receives for his labor, could not be obtained unless in the presence of three companions.

Three has by all people and from all time been esteemed the symbol of Deity, and is therefore intimately connected with what immediately pertains to His name and presence. This will be perceived in the compact of our three Ancient Grand Masters in the broken triangle, and, at a later day, in the three Ancient Brethren, the types of our Grand Master, who went up to rebuild the temple and city of Jehovah. They sought that which was lost, and as a condition of its finding, the same number, three, must be present to receive it, as by the absence of one it had many years before been lost.

The representation is historical; and so long as the facts of the traditional history are preserved, and the presence of the three weary sojourners is secured to receive the lost treasure, the design of the requirement, in our judgment, is fully answered. It is impossible to further amplify and illustrate these last suggestions on paper, but many other confirmatory circumstances will be readily suggested pointing to the same grand design.

We are highly gratified by the kindly and fraternal notices everywhere appearing of our well beloved companion WILLIAM STORER, so many years the faithful, intelligent, and able reporter of our Grand Chapter, and by the universal regret that his declining health forbids his longer continuance in the reportorial corps. Your com-

mittee cannot hope to fill his place. He is well known, identified with Masonry in Connecticut for a score or more of years, and at the close of his active labors receives the warm and well-merited plaudits of the whole of the Royal Craft. May we be blessed yet many years with the loving greeting, warm sympathy, and wise counsel of our venerable companion.

The *M. E.* CHAS. W. STEARNS was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* JOSEPH K. WHEELER was reelected Grand Secretary.

DELAWARE.

The Grand Chapter of Delaware held its third Annual Convocation in the city of Dover on the eighteenth day of January, 1871—the *M. E.* DANIEL C. GOODWIN, Grand High Priest, presiding, and the *R. E.* WILLIAM F. GODWIN being Grand Secretary.

Four subordinate Chapters (all) were represented.

The Grand High Priest, in his Address, reports Royal Arch Masonry in that jurisdiction to be in a flourishing condition, and that no complaints from individual Chapters had been presented to him. He feelingly notices the death of Comp. B. B. FRENCH, and pays a fitting tribute to his memory. He recommends some action upon the representative question, and favors the adoption of the system. He also advocates the employment of substitutes, and thinks that without their use Chapters in the rural districts would oftentimes be placed in a sad dilemma. He suggests an amendment to the Constitution providing for the annual payment of the expenses of representatives, and advises that the Secretaries of subordinate Chapters be required to forward to the Grand Secretary a list of all rejections, suspensions, or expulsions immediately after action has been taken in such cases.

The report of the Grand Treasurer shows a balance in the treasury of \$45 43.

The chairman of the Committee on Correspondence presented a lame excuse for making no report, and was allowed to retire on his laurels.

The question of the appointment of representatives was left to the discretion of the Grand High Priest. Number of Chapters, 4; number of Royal Arch Masons, 187; an increase of 22 over last year.

The *M. E.* ALLEN V. LESLIE was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* W. F. GODWIN was reelected Grand Secretary.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

We are in receipt of the proceedings of this Grand Chapter for the year 1870, from which we learn that six Convocations were held during the year, viz: one Semi-Annual, two Special, two Resumed, and one Annual Convocation.

We doubt not the companions enjoyed these frequent opportunities of meeting together and interchanging fraternal sentiments and ideas; but should the Grand Chapter of California hold as many Convocations in one year, a petition in bankruptcy would be the result.

The Semi-Annual Convocation was held at Washington on the 9th day of May, seven Chapters being represented.

Comp. MASON, from the Committee on Correspondence, submitted a report in relation to the formation of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, and offered the following resolution, which was adopted:—

WHEREAS a Grand *R. A.* Chapter for the Province of Nova Scotia has been formed, and, from a careful examination of the steps taken to secure its formation, this Grand Chapter is satisfied that it has complied with all the requirements usual in such cases; therefore

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia hereby recognizes the Grand *R. A.* Chapter of Nova Scotia, and extends to her the warmest fraternal regards, with the Royal Arch greeting and right hand of fellowship.

The Grand Visitor and Lecturer complained of the action of the High Priest of *Potomac* Chapter, No. 8, in refusing to conform to the work as prescribed by the Grand Chapter; whereupon the refractory officer was Masonically spanked and told to be a good boy in future.

A Special Convocation was held on the twelfth day of August for the purpose of making arrangements for the funeral of their late lamented High Priest, Comp. BENJAMIN BROWN FRENCH. A committee was appointed to prepare suitable resolutions in respect to his memory, and also a committee to prepare an eulogy upon the deceased.

A Resumed Convocation was held on the fourteenth day of August, when the Grand Chapter, in company with the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia and other Masonic Bodies, accompanied the remains of the "loved and best" to their last resting-place, where, with aching hearts, they consigned him to the narrow sepulchre. We can judge of the grief which filled the hearts of those who were his immediate companions and friends, when even in distant California and among those to whom he was personally unknown, the saddened countenances of the brethren when his death was announced, told of the deep and sincere regret which was felt for his loss.

A Special Convocation was held on the twenty-ninth day of September, for the purpose of listening to an eulogy upon the life and character of Comp. B. B. FRENCH, by Comp. JOSEPH T. BROWN. Had we time and space, it would afford us great pleasure to copy entire this admirable address, but we can only quote a few passages, which will give but a faint idea of its eloquence and beauty. He gives a brief history of the life and Masonic services of Comp. FRENCH, of whom he says:—

The history of our departed companion is the story of a good man's path through the world; a life of labor and of love; a stream of usefulness welling up from the fountain of his infancy, and increasing, broadening, and deepening until the close of his well-spent existence; a bright, cheerful river gladdening the hearts of thousands on its either side, and distributing with a generous hand countless blessings all along its course.

Only a few weeks ago we were assembled, in a neighboring city, to pay the last sad honors to our illustrious dead. I occupied the seat next to him, and when the sad ceremonial was ended he turned to me and said—"And who next, brother?" Little did we then think that our next offices of mourning would be held around his casket, and that I should so soon be called upon to assist in paying the last sad tribute to his distinguished memory. Truly, "life is a vapor that appeareth for a little while and then vanisheth away."

Time is the workshop of eternity, and if the Temple of Holiness is erected in our hearts it must be now. What was possible for our deceased companion is possible for us. Life means duty, labor, work, and would we like him rejoice in a record of usefulness to our fellow-men, we must like him apply ourselves to its attainment. The lives of such men are guide posts to our journey through the world, and beacon lights to our voyage over the tempestuous sea of mortality, and the warnings of their death call to us in trumpet tones, "Be ye also ready!"

Let us, then, apply our hearts to this solemn lesson; let us follow in his footsteps over the sands of time, so that when we, too, are called to pass from this living death to eternal life we may be received as true and tried stones, fit for the heavenly foundation, that will not "be rejected and thrown aside as unfit for that spiritual building, that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

The Annual Convocation was held on the 14th day of November, seven Chapters being represented.

The Grand High Priest in his Address, says:—

I am happy to be able to report to the G. C. that harmony and prosperity are the grand characteristics that have distinguished us during the past year as a jurisdiction; nothing, so far as I am aware, having transpired to disturb its harmony or interfere with its prosperity—for which we should, with united hearts and voices, send up our adoration and praise to the great I AM, to whom we must ever be great debtors.

He pays a feeling tribute to the memory of Comp. FRENCH, in which appears this somewhat singular paragraph:—

I would ask the companions to excuse me for trespassing so much upon their time, for no one more fully realizes than myself the fact that this subject has been presented to this Grand Chapter by a companion, *the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy (Masonically) to unloose.*

Oh tempora! Oh Moses! what an admission. We rather like an exhibition o

humility by those in high places ; it is a quality so rare in these degenerate days that an occasional evidence of its existence is a positive treat ; but we *humbly* submit that this (to use a California phrase) is "rather running the thing into the ground." If the Grand High Priest is unworthy, who shall relieve the pedal extremities of Comp. BROWN?

The Report on Correspondence is from the pen of Comp. JOHN EDWIN MASON. He reviews the proceedings of thirty-five Grand Chapters, our own for 1870 being among the number. He pays the following compliment to Comp. HARVILLE, which will, we doubt not, be highly appreciated by our worthy Past Grand High Priest:—

Grand High Priest HARVILLE gave an address which is a model of brevity and practical sense. If Grand High Priests would only stop talking when they have got nothing more to say, they would confer a favor on the Royal Craft.

Too many think they must spin out a yarn of common-place platitudes and whining cant until they weary the companions beyond all endurance. When committees are appointed on the Grand High Priest's Address they find absolutely nothing to report, and they are in the situation of the down-east fishermen that captured a large amount of fog on the Grand Banks, and were disgusted to find that a single ray of sunshine evaporated all their plunder.

We judge from the general tenor of Comp. MASON's writings that he is not an ardent admirer of the General Grand Chapter ; in fact we are *almost* convinced that he would not mourn sincerely if that distinguished body was numbered with the things that are not. He loses no opportunity to pitch a hot shot into it, and all the evils that Royal Arch Masonry is heir to, he lays to its charge.

We do not propose to discuss the merits or demerits of the General Grand Chapter ; enough has been said on both sides to place this controversy clearly before the minds of all who feel an interest in the matter, and each companion will of course form his own opinion. We find no allusion to the General Grand Chapter in the proceedings of this Grand Chapter, except in the Report on Correspondence, by Comp. MASON, and we are therefore unaware of the sentiments entertained by the body itself towards the General Grand Chapter ; but we hope the hostility so decidedly manifested by Comp. MASON is not generally entertained by our worthy companions of the District of Columbia.

The arguments of Comp. MASON against holding allegiance to the General Grand Chapter are not without weight ; but they would be far more potent if they were characterized by more brotherly love and less gall and bitterness. Bear in mind, Comp. MASON, that among those who compose the General Grand Chapter are some of the finest intellects in America—men whose writings and long years of arduous service in the Order have made them justly celebrated throughout the Masonic world ; men upon whose brows the frosts of many winters have fixed the stamp of wisdom and discretion, and who would scarcely be swerved from what they believe to be the right course by the empty bribe of a "high-sounding title."

The closing paragraph of Comp. MASON's able report shows a highly satisfactory condition of the Order in that jurisdiction. He says:—

Prosperity and success has never crowned a single year's labor in capitular Masonry here, equal to that just closed. Our numbers have rapidly increased, and harmony and good feeling everywhere prevail. Our troubles in the formation of our Grand Chapter have been buried and forgotten. Smiling and happy faces meet now, where all was sorrow, anger, and anxiety three years ago. A beautiful Temple has been completed the past year in Washington, costing \$200,000, in which a Chapter Chamber is magnificently furnished, and where we are anxious to greet our companions from every part of the world. A Royal Arch welcome will here be extended to all. Our council fires are burning brightly—let us smoke the pipe of peace around them.

Jubilate! We rejoice in your prosperity, Comp. MASON ; long may it continue. Surely, where peace, harmony, and prosperity sit enthroned, the heart should be free from bitterness. Your last words are : "Our council fires are burning brightly—let us smoke the pipe of peace around them." So say we all of us—let the calumet be passed.

The Committee on Accounts report the financial condition of the Grand Chapter as follows: Amount received from all sources, \$1397 50; amount expended, \$811 47. Balance in treasury, \$586 03.

Seven chartered Chapters are borne upon the roll, with an aggregate membership of eight hundred and thirty-six.

Comp. J. LOCKIE was elected Grand High Priest, and Comp. N. D. LARDNER was reelected Grand Secretary.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

We have received no pamphlet containing the transactions of this Grand Body; but from the complete and excellent report of Comp. BLACKIE, of Tennessee, we extract the following:—

At the various Quarterly Communications the representation of Chapters has been about sixty.

At the meeting in July, 1871, the annual accounts were submitted and reported upon. The receipts have been £668 1s. 7d., to the first of April, charged with the expenses of the first quarter, £123 6s. 8d. Charters were issued to new Chapters at Madras, St. Thomas, W. I., and London, and two in the county of Middlesex were refused charters because the Lodges to which they were attached had not been convoked for three years. Comp. MATTHEW COOKE introduced the following resolution, for which, however, he failed to obtain a seconder: "That, whilst the Grand Chapter recognizes the private right of every companion to belong to any extraneous Masonic organization he may choose, it as firmly forbids now, and at any future time, all companions while engaged as salaried officers under this Grand Chapter, to mix themselves up in any way with such bodies as the 'Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite,' the 'Rites of Misraim and Memphis,' the spurious Orders of 'Rome and Constantine,' the schismatic body calling itself the 'Grand Mark Lodge of England,' or any other exterior organization whatever, (even that of the Order of Knights Templar which alone is recognized), under pain of immediate dismissal from employment by the Grand Chapter."

At the Quarterly Communication, held on second of November, Comp. EARL DE GRAY and RIXON, Grand Zorubbabel, presiding, charters were granted to Chapters at Buckingham, Hokitika, (New Zealand), and Birmingham. A grant of £100 was made to the fund now being collected for the relief of the peasants of Northeastern France. The Grand Scribe, Ezra, read a dispatch from Copenhagen, dated on the 1st inst., in which it was stated that his Royal Highness, Frederick, Crown Prince of Denmark, was initiated into Freemasonry by his Majesty, King Charles XV. of Sweden. We are informed that this Prince will succeed the late M. W. Bro. BRASTROP as Grand Master of the Danish Grand Lodge. The Earl of Cærnarvon has been installed as second Grand Principal of the Grand Chapter.

Statistics. Chapters, two hundred and eighty.

Elections. MARQUIS OF RIXON, Grand Zorubbabel; JOHN HERVEY, Freemason's Hall, London, Grand Scribe Ezra.

The *London Freemason* states that the beautiful feature of passing the veils no longer forms part of the ritual of Royal Arch Masonry as practiced in England, and any Chapter persisting in conferring such a preliminary ceremony upon candidates will forfeit its charter.

FLORIDA.

The twenty-fourth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Florida was held in the city of Tallahassee, commencing on Tuesday, the tenth day of January, 1871—the M.: E.: DEWITT C. DAWKINS, Grand High Priest, presiding, the R.: E.: W. M. MCINTOSH acting as Grand Secretary. Eight Chapters were represented, and the list of Grand Officers is mainly filled up with *pro tempore* appointments.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is brief, and his official acts few. He refers to the misfortunes of the past, and speaks hopefully of the future, as follows:—

When you come to review the operations of Royal Arch Masonry in this Grand Jurisdiction for the past Masonic year, you will not likely find that much rapid progress has been made, nor could it be reasonably expected. Yet the evidences of moderate success and the elements of steadiness and future prosperity are with us.

Our people, like children and cripples, learning and relearning to walk, are beginning, if but slowly, to survive the misfortunes and hardships of the past, and when the sprig of prosperity has once more begun to flourish in our lovely floral State, Royal Arch Masonry will feel its influence and flourish and be useful in proportion. May the days of former prosperity ere long return, and even be exceeded, and then may all in the land be glad.

He alludes feelingly to the death of Comp. EDWARD BRADFORD, Grand Secretary, and announces the appointment of Comp. ALBERT J. RUSSELL to fill the position made vacant by his death. Comp. RUSSELL, however, did not appear in the flesh, during the Convocation, but excused himself on the plea of urgent business.

Two dispensations were granted for the formation of new Chapters: one called *Thomas Brown* Chapter. We presume JOHN SMITH will be the next recipient of nomenclatural honors, as in point of celebrity he can discount BROWN, and his history furnishes material for several *chapters*. We are decidedly opposed to naming Masonic bodies for individuals, especially if the individual whom it is proposed to honor is numbered among the living; for however honorable a man may be when such a compliment is bestowed on him—as poor human nature is fallible, and “prone to err, as the sparks fly upward”—it is just possible that he may steal a horse before his obituary is written, and thus bring shame upon the Lodge or Chapter which bears his name.

We notice that the Grand Chapter on one occasion dispensed with the regular business, and exemplified the work in the Mark Master's degree by conferring that degree upon two candidates. We think the better way would have been to open the Mark Lodge of the subordinate Chapter in which the candidates were elected, and, appointing the brethren best skilled in the work to fill the several stations, confer the degree in the subordinate body. We do not think it the province of a Grand Chapter to resolve itself into a Mark Master's Lodge and confer degrees.

The Report on Correspondence was presented by Comp. THOMAS A. CARRUTH, in which he reviews the proceedings of twenty-seven Grand Chapters, and gives our own a kindly recognition. He has succeeded in furnishing an excellent report under the most adverse circumstances; and we think his apology for not doing better is amply sufficient to excuse a greatly inferior production. He says:—

On the night of the 13th December, the dwelling of the writer was entirely consumed by fire, leaving himself and family homeless, and destroying much valuable property, among which was the labor commenced, and in a fair way of completion, of this report. The cares and anxieties consequent upon such a misfortune, and the labor incident upon getting another shelter for wife and children, have so drawn upon our time as to prevent another commencement of work on the report until now, December 29th, when we begin *de novo*, and throw ourself upon the Masonic charity of our companions at home and abroad.

We tender our companion our fraternal sympathy in his affliction, and give him credit for an amount of “spunk” which we feel we could not have exhibited under similar circumstances. Had we been placed in such a predicament, we think we should have felt very much as did the midshipman who was undergoing an examination for promotion before a naval Board. After imagining a ship in every possible position of difficulty and danger, and inquiring how he would proceed in such a case, his examining tormentors placed her in such a fix that no human power could rescue her, and asked him what he would do then. After scratching a moment for an idea, he replied: “Well, Admiral, I'd just lie down and holler.” We think, had we been placed in Comp. CARRUTH's dilemma, we should have taken a horizontal position and *hollered*.

After praising the report of our predecessor, he says:—

We cannot fully concur with him in his hearty endorsement of the strictures of Comp. J. EMMET BLACKSHARR, of Georgia, on the decision of the G. H. P. of Alabama, “that a Chapter may adopt a By-Law declaring that any companion who shall be engaged in selling spirituous liquors is guilty of unmasonic conduct.”

Temperance is the *first* cardinal principle of Masonry, and we do not believe in any *true* temperance except total abstinence; and the man who for the sake of mammon will voluntarily deal out liquid poison to his fellow-creatures to produce misery, crime, and death, should be classed with and treated like any other who would sell strychnine or arsenic for the same purpose, and is, in our estimation, really guilty of unmasonic and inhuman conduct. One great cause of the deterioration of Masonry in these days is the drunkenness of many of those whose vows to “be good men and true and strictly to obey the moral law” are registered in heaven. And we

would ask, why is this drunkenness?—and answer, because our Lodges and Chapters have members connected with them whose business in life is to ensnare the weak, and fill their coffers with the hard-earned wages of even their brethren, by putting to their lips and inducing them to drink the accursed cup, forgetting the curse pronounced in God's Book against them, and because such practices are countenanced and even encouraged by those whose position in the Craft give them an influence which they could not otherwise have. We regret to find in an able printed Masonic document an apology for the rum-seller, which is calculated to give him a feeling of respectability in his unholy calling. There are, doubtless, many men engaged in that traffic who have not duly considered the results of their conduct, and who, in other respects, may be good men and Masons; but we think the proper plan to remedy the evil of drunkenness is not to punish alone the poor inebriate, but also the agent and abettor of his crime.

If we may be permitted to use a strong phrase, we say, "*them's our sentiments.*" We "could a tale unfold" of the ravages of intemperance in this, our Golden State, but we forbear. We sometimes think this vice is the beast with seven heads and ten horns spoken of in the Revelations; but alas! the *horns* of this monster are not to be numbered, and his gor(g)ed victims are counted by legions.

Let every Masonic writer imitate the example of Comp CARRUTH, and smite the demon hip and thigh, until at last we have banished him from our Lodge-rooms and the halls of our Chapters and Commanderies.

Comp. DE WITT CLINTON DAWKINS was reelected Grand High Priest, and Comp. W. M. MCINTOSH was elected Grand Secretary.

GEORGIA.

The Grand Chapter of Georgia held its Annual Convocation for the year 1871 in the City of Augusta, commencing on the twenty-sixth day of April, the M.: E.: MOSES P. KELLOG, Grand High Priest, presiding, the R.: E.: J. E. BLACKSHEAR being Grand Secretary. Forty Chapters were represented at the opening. The Address of the Grand High Priest is an interesting and scholarly paper, and will well repay a careful perusal. There is but one portion of it to which we can reasonably demur, which is the following:—

Founded on eternal truth, as our Order is, no genuine devotee of Masonry can, during these convulsions, lose sight of the unchangeable principles that govern the institution.

In his hours of affliction Masonry is a constant solace—in his rounds of pleasure the teachings of the Order restrict his passion and increase his joys. And in that solemn hour, when the soul hovers midway between two worlds—when the vail of earthly vision grows transparent with the dawning light of eternity—it must be a source of comfort to know that he possesses the Signet of Truth, by which he may gain admission within the white vail of the sanctuary, while his earthly remains will be honored with sepulture and his orphan children and destitute widow will be protected. What institution can do more?

We always regret to see any attempt made to substitute Masonry for Religion. While each labors in its appropriate sphere to elevate and purify mankind, they are separate and distinct in their natures. "Masonry is a beautiful system of morality;" its teachings are pure and noble, and naturally lead us to that point where Religion takes us by the hand and guides us into the presence of Him through whose pardoning grace alone we may obtain salvation. By a strict adherence to the principles and teachings of Masonry, a man may lead a pure and blameless life; but "in that solemn hour, when the soul hovers midway between the two worlds, when the vail of earthly vision grows transparent with the dawning light of eternity," the "devotee of Masonry" will find that something more is needed to sustain the drooping spirit and cheer it with the hope of a blessed immortality.

A long series of resolutions was introduced with reference to the General Grand Chapter, acknowledging that an error had been committed in seceding from that Grand Body, and proposing to remedy that error by returning to their allegiance. We regret to say that the resolutions, good and sensible though they were, were laid over until the next Annual Convocation. In adopting the following resolution we think the Grand Chapter exhibited good judgment:—

Resolved, That the authority to elect Principal Sojourner, Captain of the Host, Royal Arch Captain, and the three Grand Masters of the Vails, in this Grand Chapter, be stricken from the Constitution; and that said officers, after the adoption of this amendment, shall be appointed at each Convocation, by the four principal officers from the delegates present, to serve during the session.

A resolution was also adopted approving of the Representative system. The Report on Correspondence is from the pen and scissors of Comp. J. EMMETT BLACKSHEAR. He quotes liberally from the proceedings of twenty-five Grand Chapters, and is exceedingly chary of his comments thereon. We conclude that Comp. BLACKSHEAR was pressed for time, and we are sorry for it, for the meagre dishes of his own cooking which he sets before us give us an appetite for more. From the fact that our own proceedings are not noticed, we conclude that they have not been received, and shall forward another installment on suspicion.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were both reelected.

ILLINOIS.

The twenty-first Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Illinois was held in the city of Chicago, commencing on Friday, the seventh day of October, 1870—the *M. E.* JOHN M. PEARSON, Grand High Priest, presiding, and the *R. E.* JAMES H. MILES being Grand Secretary. One hundred and thirty-eight subordinate Chapters were represented.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is a document which ought to commend itself to the favorable notice of Comp. MASON, of the District of Columbia, as it contains no “whining cant,” as he calls the customary thank-offerings to the Deity. Ten dispensations were issued for the formation of new Chapters, and, judging from the general tone of the Address, the Royal Craft in Illinois is in a highly prosperous and satisfactory condition. The Grand High Priest says:—

For the last few years our income has been steadily increasing, and now amounts to more than our needs, and, with ordinary prudence and economy, I think we might safely reduce the amount collected of the subordinate Chapters. It has never been the expressed wish of this Grand Chapter to accumulate a fund, and I very much doubt the expediency of any such action. The Constitution gives to the Grand Chapter the right to “require from its subordinates such dues and fees as will at all times discharge the engagements of the Grand Chapter.” With deference to your wisdom in this matter, as in all others, I suggest that these be lessened to conform with our present prosperous circumstances.

I have been asked for a dispensation to receive the petition of a non-affiliated Master Mason. I have always held that special dispensations should only be granted to allow a temporary suspension of our rules, and as this would involve more than this, and might even operate to set aside the resolution entirely, I declined to grant it. On the other hand, I have been asked “If Master Masons made in a Lodge U. D., and petitioners for a charter from the Grand Lodge, should be considered non-affiliated until action was had in their case by the Grand Lodge?” I was somewhat at a loss how to decide this matter. You, of course, understand the case without further details—there is room for argument on both sides. Nevertheless, remembering well the discussion upon the resolution in this Grand Body, in 1859, and that the intention was only to exclude from the privileges of our Order those who were unwilling to assume the duties of Master Masons, and not regarding these brethren in that light, but rather the reverse, I gave permission to the Chapter to receive their petitions.

We think there can be no doubt as to the correctness of these decisions, although the Grand High Priest was at a loss how, in the latter case, to decide. A Master Mason, made in a Lodge under dispensation, is certainly a Master Mason in good standing, and entitled to all the rights and privileges of Masonry; were it otherwise, the conferring of the degrees in a Lodge under dispensation would be simply a farce, and worse than useless. We hold that a Lodge under dispensation is for the time being invested with all the powers and prerogatives of a chartered Lodge, except the right to elect its Master and Wardens, and to representation in the Grand Lodge.

The committee to whom the Grand Master's Address was referred, in their report, approved the decisions of the Grand High Priest in the following language:—

Your committee are of opinion that non-affiliated Master Masons should never be

allowed to receive the degrees conferred in the Chapter. If they are not willing to sustain a Lodge, and contribute to the general cause of Masonry, it is very unlikely that they will any better perform their duties in a higher sphere. He that lacks in little things will be remiss in higher duties, and no encouragement of advancement should be given to those who have proved unfaithful at the threshold.

With Masons belonging to Lodges U. D. the case is widely different. They assist in the maintenance of the Fraternity and its organization. They are subject to all the demands, and should be allowed to receive all the benefits of Masonry, so far as advancement is concerned. Those who labor ought not to be placed under needless disabilities.

They also submitted the following resolution, which was adopted :—

Resolved, That Master Masons, made by a Lodge under dispensation, are entitled to petition for the Chapter degrees.

The committee also submitted the following resolution, which was adopted, and which we would gladly see adopted in our own jurisdiction :—

Resolved, That a protest against the advancement of a brother to the degrees of the Chapter, has the same force, and no more, as the rejection by ballot.

This appears to us to be just and proper. We do not believe that the objection of a single individual should bar the door against an applicant for all time ; but after the time has expired within which rejected applicants may not apply, he should be permitted to renew his application or present his petition to another Chapter.

The following resolution was properly tabled, by a vote of eighty to eleven :—

Resolved, That the representatives of this Grand Chapter, in the General Grand Chapter of the United States, are hereby instructed to introduce a proposition to dissolve the General Grand Chapter, and to advocate the same ; and, in case the General Grand Chapter does not dissolve, that said representatives are instructed to ask leave to withdraw this Grand Chapter from its membership in the General Grand Chapter.

The Report on Correspondence was presented by the Grand Secretary, Comp. JAMES H. MILES. He reviews the transactions of thirty-seven Grand Chapters, noting everything of interest or importance. California, for 1870, receives fraternal notice, and Comp. MILES approves our regulation requiring the names of all applicants for degrees or membership to be signed in full. In his concluding remarks, Comp. MILES says :—

One thing we have observed in all the proceedings, that peace, harmony, and permanent prosperity seem to pervade throughout all our wide-extended domain, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast comes back the response—all is well ! And may we not hope that thus it will continue to be, as, year by year, we add to our numbers, now increased to almost a hundred thousand strong.

True, some little differences of opinion exist ; and yet we seem to be drawing more closely together, and burying little matters of difference in oblivion, so that it seems the Mutual Admiration Society may ere long die of itself, although the General Grand Chapter should not be dissolved, nor the Past Master's degree be abolished. Finally, may all our Chapters become beautiful as the Temple, peaceful as the Ark, and sacred as the Most Holy Place.

The M. E. AUGUSTUS A. MURRAY was elected Grand High Priest, and the R. E. JAMES H. MILES was reelected Grand Secretary.

IOWA.

The Grand Chapter of Iowa held its seventeenth Annual Convocation at Council Bluffs, commencing on Wednesday, October eighteenth, 1871—the M. E. D. BAUGH, Deputy Grand High Priest, presiding, and the R. E. WILLIAM B. LANGRIDGE being Grand Secretary. We regret to learn that the Grand High Priest, having taken a *horn* too much, was not in a condition to be present. For fear our companions may mistake our meaning, we quote the following article from the *Press* of Iowa city, which will relieve our M. E. companion—with whom we most sincerely sympathize—from any imputation which might be cast upon his reputation for sobriety :—

SEVERE ACCIDENT. On last Saturday evening, Judge Z. C. LUSE was watering an Alderney bull which he has just imported, when the animal set upon him, goring him and breaking one of his legs just above the ankle joint. The goring is not serious, but the other injuries are painful. He managed in some way, mutilated as he was, to escape from the stall beyond the reach of the infuriated brute, and was promptly

and skillfully attended by Dr. BOUCHER. This morning we learn that he is as comfortable as could be expected. The Judge has been ill all summer, and was just getting out again and regaining all of his old-time brightness and cheeriness, when this sad and painful casualty must overtake him. The bull is of a breed noted for gentleness and good temper, and it is supposed that he must have been irritated by his long ride on the cars, else he would not have made the attack. We, in common with his many friends, wish the Judge safely through this last calamity.

This appears to be a sufficient apology, both for the Grand High Priest and the bull.

The proceedings for 1871 forms a handsome volume of two hundred pages, and its appearance, typographically and otherwise, reflects credit upon its compiler. Its frontispiece is a fine steel engraved portrait of the Grand High Priest. Comp. Z. C. LUSE, who looks altogether too good a man to be *bullied* by an Alderney, or "any other man."

We wish every Grand Chapter would follow the example set by Iowa in this particular. It would be pleasant indeed to collect, year after year, the portraits of those who, for their skill, ability and wisdom are selected by their companions to sit in the high places and wield the sceptre of power.

The Address of the Grand High Priest was read by the Grand Secretary, and commences with the following language:—

Companions:—In the kind providence of God, we are again brought to another mile-post in our Masonic pilgrimage. To few of us has the past year been one of unalloyed pleasure; to many its pathway has been indeed checkered with good and ill—to some the dark spots have seemed at times to cover almost the whole, while occasionally the sunlight breaking through the clouds has brightened them until even the saddest have seemed almost to smile. To me, they have come as to others, some bright and some dark; and now, from the stillness of my room, where for almost four months I have been confined, and where I am now lying with a broken limb, I send you these few words of greeting, praying your indulgence for my absence and the imperfection which must mark this communication. That I have escaped with my life is to me a source of profound satisfaction and thankfulness to Heaven, though my regret is deep that I cannot be with you.

Dispensations were granted for the formation of five new Chapters, and an average degree of prosperity throughout the jurisdiction is reported.

On the question of the employment of substitutes, he discourses as follows:—

The subject of substitutes has for several years occupied the attention of this Grand Chapter, and of the Craft in other jurisdictions. With us they are forbidden by resolution of the Grand Chapter, and, judging from the numerous applications which I have received during the past year for dispensations to disregard this law, (and which I, being a law-abiding man, have refused to grant), it has been a source of great trouble and annoyance to the Chapters. In an elaborate report made to his Grand Chapter—Comp. DRUMMOND, of Maine, now General Grand High Priest, after having devoted considerable research to the subject—it is shown that very few of the Grand Chapters, and those only within a very few years, and they generally young Grand Chapters, have coincided with our views on this subject, and that in *St. Andrew's* Chapter, in Boston, substitution has been the rule for over a hundred years; and the General Grand Chapter, at its late meeting, having wisely considered that what has been the practice of Chapter Masonry ever since its origin, as now worked in America, is the best explanation of the original intent of the law and the construction put upon it by its framers, has decided that substitutes may be used. I would therefore recommend that the question be reviewed, and if you deem best, the resolution passed some years since be repealed.

He alludes feelingly to the great calamity at Chicago, and exhorts the companions to contribute liberally to the relief of the sufferers.

Comp. PARVIN, of the delegation to the triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter at Baltimore, says in his report:—

Its Constitution was amended in a most important feature, in the provision admitting to permanent membership therein all Past Grand High Priests of the State Grand Chapters. This was a cunning and shrewd move, in that it has not only silenced many of the guns of largest caliber, whose batteries have heretofore been opened upon its crumbling walls, but has now turned them upon the attacking party, and thus added strength where before was only great weakness. The two other most prominent subjects brought to its notice and received action, were the "Word" and "Substitutes." The former was reduced from three to one language, that of "plain

English," one of the original three. As to substitutes in exaltation, the use thereof was not only recognized, but the fact demonstrated that their use was the sole custom and manner of old, and that the rule now obtaining in this jurisdiction a direct innovation in the body of Masonry. We trust that the resolution forbidding their use in this jurisdiction may be rescinded, that we may no more appear to be arrayed against the good old way which here, as elsewhere, is always the best.

The sessions of this General Grand Body are separated in the future from those of the Grand Encampment, to which it has for these many years appeared as only a figure-head without scarce a respectable show. The next session will be held at Nashville, the last Tuesday in November, 1874—that of the greater light (the Grand Encampment) meets at New Orleans the first Tuesday in December of the same year. This will serve to test the relative strength of these two bodies in the estimation of the Masonic public.

This session was, with its surroundings, one of great interest, and will long be remembered by those who were privileged to be in attendance upon it.

Our good companions of Iowa appear to cherish but little love for that ancient and venerable body yelect the "General Grand Chapter;" and if we mistake not, the avowed cause of their return to their allegiance was, that they might by their votes assist in its total demolition. But the General Grand Chapter still lives, and we trust that in the future all cause for hostility towards it will be removed, and that all will recognize it as the governing body of the Order in America. The following resolutions were adopted:—

WHEREAS, It is of importance to Royal Arch Masonry that its rites and ceremonies should be uniform the world over, and that Royal Arch Masons should be in accord wherever dispersed; and

WHEREAS, The dissemination of the degrees of our system is greatly to be desired, therefore,

Resolved, That we recognize the establishment of the Grand Mark Lodge of England, of which that distinguished Masonic scholar Comp. WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN, of Truro, England, is Provincial Grand Secretary, and extend to it our cordial recognition, praying for it great success until such time as the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of England shall recognize and disseminate the degrees in practice among us.

Resolved, That the action had at the Grand Annual Convocation of 1868, requiring English Mark Master Masons to be "healed," be rescinded, they being hereby declared to be recognized as regular Mark Master Masons, and receivable into Chapters in this jurisdiction, when open in the degree of Mark Master, on the same footing as those of our own obedience.

Resolved, That the interchange of representatives with the Grand Mark Lodge of England is hereby authorized and invited.

As the question relative to the employment of substitutes is one of general interest to the Craft, we quote the majority and minority reports of the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom that matter was referred:—

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of the State of Iowa:—

The Committee on Jurisprudence having considered the resolution referred to them, viz: rescinding that passed in 1868, forbidding the use of substitutes, and the one of yesterday proposing to censure the High Priest of *Star Chapter*, No. 47, for violating the former, would report as follows:—

We recommend the repeal of the former, forbidding the use of substitutes, for the reasons—

1. That substitutes have been used since the introduction of Royal Arch Masonry into the United States;

2. That they are still used in most or all of the old Grand Chapters;

3. That their use is both recognized and justified by the General Grand Chapter;

4. That all the better informed Masons throughout the land approve of it.

5. The resolution passed by this body seven years ago was the result of hasty and inconsiderate action, in which we followed the later lights rather than the earlier.

6. That this "new departure" in Masonry is only a feeble attempt to prove ourselves wiser than our fathers, and because we do not approve of Young America's innovation in the body of Masonry, as it was constituted in the long ago.

7. Because it in most cases works a great inconvenience, clogging the wheels of the royal car, and is productive of no good.

8. The ceremonies of installation are the work of the authors of the books in which they appear; and if they have any really forbidding clause, it is not obligatory upon this Grand Chapter, nor any of its subordinates.

9. That the evils of too much legislation should be checked and averted at the earliest possible moment.

We recommend that the second resolution do not pass, as it is manifest that the

officer involved in its proposed censure was governed by considerations of good rather than evil. Censures of this kind are meant for, and should only be inflicted upon, the wilfully disobedient; and to visit such a censure at this time, upon the officer in question, and for the cause designated, would work far greater evil than good in the government of this body over its subordinates.

T. S. PARVIN, } Committee.
G. W. COOK, }

Comp. H. S. WINSLOW, from the same committee, presented the following minority report —

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of the State of Iowa:—

As one of the Committee on Jurisprudence, having considered the resolution presented this Grand Body in relation to the repealing of that passed in 1863, forbidding the use of substitutes, and also one censuring the High Priest of *Star Chapter*, No. 47, for a violation of a law now in force, would beg leave to present the following minority report, and recommend that the resolution first referred to do not pass, for these reasons:—

1. Without discussing the origin of the law, or whether it is in general use or not in other jurisdictions. it has become thoroughly engrafted in our work, and it is in entire harmony with the ritual as adopted by this Grand Body.

2. The practice of constantly altering or changing general rules and regulations cannot be too emphatically discouraged; It cannot but lead to uncertainties and irregularities in subordinate Chapters under supposed emergencies; trusting that this body will, under the pressure of the circumstances, repeal the law thus violated.

3. While this departure may be permitted and even justified by the Most Excellent General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, yet such recognition of the practice is not in the nature of a law or edict of that Grand Body, and should have no controlling influence over the legislation of this body.

4. The proposed repeal of this resolution, and the adoption of the practice of the use of substitutes, introduces a senseless and useless rule, requiring the use of three persons at every exaltation, but one of which need be a candidate for the Royal Arch degree.

For the reasons above stated, I also recommend that the officers and companions of *Star Chapter*, No. 57, be censured for their violation of a plain rule of this Grand Chapter.

On a motion to adopt the majority report, it was lost by a vote of fifty-eight to ninety-seven, and the star of the offending Chapter was obscured by a cloud of censure.

We have already recorded our opinion adversely to the minority report, and as the whole matter has been thoroughly discussed, and we have custom and the General Grand Chapter on our side, with common sense to back us, we will substitute some other topic upon which to enlighten our readers.

The Past Grand High Priest, PITKIN C. WRIGHT, was presented with a jewel, in token of the respect and esteem in which he is held by his companions. Right.

The Committee on Finances report a healthy state of the exchequer, \$4,475 23 being the amount of lucre in the treasury.

The Report on Correspondence is again presented by Comp. U. D. TAYLOR—or Universally Delightful TAYLOR, as that mad wag, CORSON, of New Jersey, dubs him. He reviews the proceedings of thirty-six Grand Chapters, and his report covers one hundred closely printed pages. In noticing our proceedings for 1871, he says, "the Grand High Priest delivered a good address," from which he quotes briefly, but finds nothing of general interest except the following resolution:—

Resolved, That hereafter all applications for dispensations for the formation of new Chapters shall be accompanied with a copy of the By-Laws proposed to be adopted by said new Chapter, the said By-Laws to be approved by the Grand High Priest upon granting the dispensation.

"Would it not be better," he asks, "for the Grand Chapter to publish a standard form of By-Laws for the use of Chapters under dispensation?" We would inform Comp. TAYLOR that such a code has been in use for years, the only optional clauses being the time of holding stated meetings, and the amount of fees and dues—the minimum being fixed. It is a positive treat to peruse such a report as Comp. TAYLOR has given us, and we trust he may long continue to wield the quill reportorial. He gives Comp. MASON, of the District of Columbia, a gentle dig in the ribs, which

we hope will have a good effect in removing the mental dyspepsia with which he is evidently afflicted. In reviewing the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, he says :—

The Report on Correspondence is again by Comp. J. E. MASON, and were it not marred by many unmasonic personalities, which—*hæc olim meminisse juvabit* (?)—would be one of the very best reports it has been our privilege to read. As it is—well, we shall notice only some of the *Masonic* portions thereof.

He then makes two brief extracts only, leaving the inference that the *Masonic* lead in that report is worked out. Rough on MASON.

Alluding to a sharp criticism upon Comp. CORSON's peculiar style, by Comp. BRINIE, of South Carolina, he says :—

Now CORSON has said some of his very sharpest, hardest, most sarcastic things of Iowa and with our small caliber gun we have popped back the best we could, and expect him "to do so some more;" but we do not expect him to "get his back up" at anything we have said, any more than he should expect us to take a dose of his pills, were we to meet him near (or over) a bottle with a cobweb-covered green seal on the top.

The trouble is, wit is like a ghost, much more often talked of than seen, and many a man has been scared out of his senses, when he saw only a rag fluttering in the breeze. "A ghost! a ghost!" So we hear the cry: "Badinage," "foolishness," etc., etc.

Were we not TAYLOR, we would try to be CORSON, rather than one of his detractors. N. B.—The writer of the above never saw Comp. CORSON, nor has said Comp. C. ever said or written one word, good or bad, of us, to our knowledge; but we love truth, and justice, and downright, out-spoken honesty; and who ever saw a glum man honest from principle? Or who ever saw a jolly, rotund corpus leading a mob? No no; go look on the rostrum of any anti-masonic convention; one look at the cadaverous specimens of humanity—he's and she's—is enough to make any good man billious for a month. This class of people have been called, in Arabian metaphor, the scourge of the *dessert*; always waiting—knife in hand—ready at any moment to assault the best after-dinner joke or pun; in the words of MILTON—

" ——— they instead of fruit,
Chewed bitter ashes, which the offended taste,
With spatt'ring noise rejected."

But why waste our time railing at them in defense? He who is impervious to the point of a good pun, is past the point of punishment. Out upon these wit-whippers, these pun pun-ies, who would rejoice to see the whole pun-kin "baked in a pie," that they might cut them up; such men, like the consequences of small-pox, are *to be pitted*, for what they call a nuisance is in truth the giving of a *new sense* to our language.

We respectfully submit that any man who will deliberately perpetrate so preposterous a breach of propriety as the previous paragraph, should be placed in penal position in the Pun-jaub, or some other place with a very warm climate.

But notwithstanding his horrible puns, we think Comp. TAYLOR takes the right view of this matter. CORSON's wit is *sui generis*; it harms no one, nor do we believe he intends it shall. Let him perform his literary gymnastics, and if any one gets hit, let him shoot back, but do not dip your shafts in the poison of anger or malice. *Suus cuique mos*—Let each enjoy his own.

Comp. E. A. GUILBERT was elected Grand High Priest, and Comp. W. B. LANGRIDGE was reelected Grand Secretary.

KANSAS.

The Grand Chapter of Kansas held its seventh Annual Convocation in the city of Topeka, commencing on Tuesday, the seventeenth day of October, A. D. 1871—the R. E. E. D. HILLYER, Deputy Grand High Priest, presiding, and the R. E. E. T. CARR being Grand Secretary.

Fourteen subordinate Chapters were represented. The Grand High Priest, owing to important business engagements, was unable to be present. He was represented, however, by an interesting and readable address, from which we quote the following :—

To the Royal Craft in general, however, the past year been one of those periods within which important events have transpired. We have seen a government which,

within the memory of man, has ranked as one of the chief nations of the earth, issuing an order prohibiting Masonic assemblages, under a plea that they were subversive of good order, and plotting against the constituted authorities.

We have seen the Masons of a great city, fully organized, marching to the fortifications and from the ramparts, bearing flags of mediation between two contending factions engaged in fratricidal strife, risking their own lives that they might cause to cease a war which had for its object nothing which could commend itself to any civilized nation. We have seen one of the most intolerant and bigoted organizations of the age stripped of a portion of its power, so that it will no longer, by an implicit and blind yielding to its mandates by an ignorant and superstitious people, be able to exclude from the limits of a great territory, the organizations of our Order, whereby its influence has been impaired. We have seen two powerful nations, bound by fraternal ties, by religion, by education, and all those things which tend to a higher civilization, ready to draw the sword to arbitrate certain differences arising out of a disregard of each other's rights, reconciled by the mediation of a few men under the leadership of one who bore the highest honors which could be bestowed upon him by Masons; thus have we ever found the Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons engaged in some great labor of reconciliation, not for the purpose of self-aggrandizement, but that peace upon earth and good will toward all men may prevail.

As to the Masons of a great city marching to the fortifications with banners, etc., we must confess that, as a Mason, we do not feel particularly proud of that exploit on the part of our brethren. It reminds us forcibly of the old nursery rhyme—

“Napoleon with ten thousand men,
Marched up the hill and down again.”

Doubtless our good brethren meant well, but we will venture to say that, nowhere out of La Belle France could such a spectacle have been witnessed. The Grand High Priest might have added to the wonderful things we have witnessed during the past year, the following:—

We have seen the Emperor of a great nation, with his son, the Crown Prince, expelled from the Order by the Masons of a nation with whom they were at war; declared traitors, felons, and outlaws; most essentially cursed and their memory delivered to the execration of posterity for disobeying a summons to appear before a tribunal of their enemies and show cause why they should not be dealt with for battering down their walls and bombarding their cities.

To the reverend humbugs who have lately made themselves ridiculous by hurling their feeble anathemas at Freemasonry, we commend the following:—

We live in a progressive age. The general system of education established in all enlightened countries has done much to dispel the dark clouds of superstition which have always hung over us and prevented the bright rays of intelligence from penetrating every human mind. Some of the clouds are still visible. We obtain an occasional view of them near the horizon, but they will soon, we hope, pass away forever. Time has wrought important changes in the opinions and feelings of men, and there is hardly a possibility of an immediate relapse into barbarism. To those, therefore, who have engaged in the insane attempt to remove what to them, by reason of their distorted vision, seems to be a mountain, we recommend the lesson taught by Mahomet, who, when he had assembled a vast concourse of people on the plains to witness his great power, and commanded the mountain to come to him, and the mountain failed to come, said: “Then Mahomet will go to the mountain.”

Well and strongly put. That which has withstood all the bulls of the Romish Church will scarcely succumb to the bleating of a few calves who have neither *head* nor *pluck*.

Dispensations were granted for the formation of three new Chapters.

The interests of Royal Arch Masonry have evidently not been allowed to suffer in the hands of the Grand High Priest, as he reports having visited every Chapter in his jurisdiction except two, and he gives a brief report of the condition of each Chapter visited. We give the following as a specimen of his reports, and recommend the course adopted by him to all Grand High Priests wheresoever dispersed:—

To *Valley* Chapter, No. 11, July 27, *M. E. W.* H. ANDREWS, H. P., presided. This Chapter is not doing much work, and has never been properly instructed to do good work. No Chapter can prosper unless it can do good work, and none can do good work without the expenditure of considerable time and labor. The aid of the

Grand Lecturer ought to be invoked, and if his services cannot be procured, the High Priest should be required to go where he can be lectured.

We note the following decision, in which we concur :—

To what extent can a man go in infidelity and still be a good Royal Arch Mason—that is, to what extent may he disbelieve the Bible?

The Bible is the great light in Masonry. Every man is responsible to a greater or less extent, according as his means of knowledge have been greater or less. No one who has had the Bible placed in his hands, and been taught to read it, can be a good man and disbelieve its teachings. And no one can be a good Royal Arch Mason who is not a good man. Therefore, I answer, that no one who does not believe in the writings of Moses and the Prophets, as contained in the Old Testament—if he has been educated in a civilized or enlightened country—can be a good Royal Arch Mason, for Royal Arch Masonry is founded thereon.

Of the triennial Convocation at Baltimore, he says :—

I cannot, however, say less than to remark that the Royal Arch Masons of Kansas and, I may say, of the entire general Grand Jurisdiction, were not only welcomed in the most fraternal manner, but were entertained sumptuously, and made to feel that they were honored guests. The recollection of that visit to Baltimore will remain ever fresh, and find a green spot in the memory of every one who had the privilege of participating in the pleasures and festivities provided for their enjoyment.

He calls attention to the calamity which has befallen our companions in Chicago, in the following touching words :—

While rejoicing in our own prosperity, and thankful for all the blessings bestowed upon us and comforts surrounding us, we must not forget the terrible calamity which has fallen upon our companions in Chicago. A few days since the Grand Chapter of Illinois was in session in that city. Then all was fair; prosperity was theirs. Now desolation marks the places where stately buildings stood; the busy marts of commerce and trade are swept away, and blackened ruins only remain to show the uncertainty of wealth. You must not forget the duty of the hour: the homeless must be sheltered, the hungry fed, the naked clothed; the widow and the orphan must be provided for. If anything can be devised for their relief, it should be done. The subject should be carefully considered, and the result, which may be arrived at, show that we have done all that we can. If possible, I would advise an appropriation of a definite amount, to be sent to the Grand High Priest of Illinois, to be used as he shall deem best.

The Report on Correspondence was presented by the Grand Secretary, Comp. E. T. CARR, and reviews the transactions of thirty-six contemporaries, including ours for 1870.

The M.: E.: E. D. HILLYER was elected Grand High Priest, and the R.: E.: E. T. CARR was reelected Grand Secretary.

KENTUCKY.

And now comes old Kentucky, with the snows of fifty-six winters upon her venerable head; yet, staunch and true, she bears her weight of years with undiminished vigor, and comes up to her fifty-sixth Annual Convocation at the city of Louisville, on the sixteenth day of October, 1871, as full of life and energy as the youngest of them all. Seventy-nine subordinates were represented at the opening. The M.: E.: HENRY BOSTWICK, Grand High Priest, presided, Comp. JAMES W. STATON acting as Grand Secretary, *pro tem*.

We regret to learn that the old Masonic patriarch, Comp. PHILIP SWIGERT, Grand Secretary, was prevented by serious illness from meeting his companions in Grand Chapter. He writes to the Grand High Priest, as follows :—

FRANKFORT, KY., October 16, 1871.

M.: E.: G. H. PRIEST BOSTWICK.

Sir and Companion: Prevented by serious illness from meeting with you in person, I hereby give you my cordial and affectionate greeting, and through you present the same to our beloved Order. I need not tell you how great is the disappointment, but Providence so orders it, and I must submit. Though absent in body, be assured that I am with you in spirit, and that now, as ever, I cherish the most earnest desire for the advancement of the great interests of Masonry. May that great and wise Being, in whom we trust, preside over your deliberations—give you wisdom in council and vigor in action—and may your meeting together be the source of the greatest pleasure and profit. Onward and onward let our principles spread till all shall be brought under their benign influence.

After a period of fifty years service, I am still willing to spend my strength in the office I now hold, if such is the wish of the body.

Fraternally,

P. SWIGERT.

We venture to say that the "disappointment" was not all on his side.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is principally confined to a record of his official acts, and to matters of local interest. He says:—

During the year, since last we met, nothing has come to my knowledge to disturb the peace and harmony of the Chapters within our jurisdiction, and I will have little to present for your consideration but the record of my official acts.

Dispensations were granted for the formation of six new Chapters, from which we infer that Kentucky soil is favorable to the growth of Royal Arch Masonry. The following, on the subject of uniformity of work, we commend to the attention of Comp. H. A. M. HENDERSON, chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, who looks upon Grand Lecturers as an abomination:—

On the subject of uniformity of work, I would say, that while I am fully satisfied that the Chapters are endeavoring to do good work and true, I find great want of uniformity, and the difficulty seems to be, that no one knows which is the correct work, (this Grand Chapter never having adopted any system of work;) and my firm conviction is, that it will be impossible to have anything like uniformity in the work of our Chapters, until this Grand Chapter adopts a system of work, and then employs one or more Lecturers to visit the Chapters and exemplify the same.

The Grand Treasurer reports the balance of cash on hand to be \$863 98; and the total resources of the Grand Chapter, \$11,663 98. We congratulate our sister upon the healthy state of her finances.

The following resolution was adopted:—

Resolved, That the name of *J. Proctor Knott* Chapter, No. 115, be changed to *J. P. Knott* Chapter, No. 115. Why Knott?

Section 5, of Article VIII, of the Constitutional Rules, was amended so as to read as follows:—

SEC. 5. No dispensation for organizing a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons can issue except upon the petition of at least nine regular Royal Arch Masons, residents of the State of Kentucky; which petition must be recommended by a subordinate Chapter, which shall examine the proposed High Priest, and certify that he is capable of performing the work of the Chapter, as provided in Section 3, Article V, of this Constitution.

A good rule, and one which in California we have found to be effective in this—that skilled workmen are placed at the head of Chapters under dispensation, and when their work is brought up for inspection it is rarely rejected and thrown among the rubbish.

The Report on Correspondence is again by Comp. H. A. M. HENDERSON, and the transactions of thirty-one Grand Chapters are reviewed. To California he devotes four pages, and quotes liberally from the report of our predecessor on various subjects. Alluding to that portion of our Grand High Priest's Address announcing the suspension from his office of the Grand Lecturer, he says:—

We have noticed that nearly every professional Lecturer upon Masonry introduces into the work some legendery, dramatic, or rhetorical conceit of his own. The temptation is to appear to know something that the Craft in general do not know—to make a sensation by the introduction of something considered very beautiful or startling. We, therefore, have been opposed to the system of Grand Lectureship, believing, as we do, that it is the fruitful cause of interpolations, and that it introduces more errors, in the shape of modernisms, into the work, than it eradicates.

In this particular case it does not appear from the record that there was any violation of the ritual work by the Grand Lecturer, but an infraction of the Constitution, By-Laws, and Landmarks, which was sanctioned by the Grand Lecturer, who was present and conferred the degrees upon the irregularly elected members. But, a Grand Lecturer who is not scrupulous in the observance of a Constitution is not likely to be scrupulous in conforming to the authorized work. The office is one that affords the opportunity for the sowing of seeds of error over a whole jurisdiction, and from the temptation to special smartness which it affords peculiarly liable to abuse. The Grand Chapter approved the suspension of the culpable Lecturer.

In his review of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Missouri, alluding to a portion of the Grand High Priest's Address in relation to uniformity of work, Comp. HENDERSON uses the following language :—

As every Masonic idea has its own proper sign that expresses it better than any other can, we should seek to preserve uniformity of language as well as spirit. We are to teach Masonry as we received it, and not as we have forgotten and substituted some words of our own. An interpolated word here and there, by one and another Lecturer, would, in the course of time, entirely destroy the original text of Masonic instruction.

In the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, we once heard Dr. BRECKINRIDGE oppose a revised edition of the Scriptures, issued by the American Bible Society, in which had been eliminated some obsolete words, on the ground that the Bible is the anchorage ground of the English language, which ought to be preserved, as far as possible, from eclecticism, in its native Anglo-Saxon simplicity.

This view, with others, prevailed, and the Bible Society had to abandon its action and cease publishing this edition, or lose the patronage of the Presbyterian Church.

Masonry is one of the agencies to preserve the purity of the English tongue, and the moment we begin to admit words of modern coinage, or of philological construction from foreign tongues, that moment we weigh anchor and set sail on uncertain seas, where a maelstrom may wait to engulf us.

The normal language of Masonry is simple, and pure men of correct tastes will admire the sublime simplicity of our ritual much more than when clothed in the meretricious rhetoric of every Lecturer who thinks he can beautify it by his own expurgations and substitutions. No license to change should be allowed any one, or we will be at last confounded in a Babel of tongues.

We heard of an artist who once took a pure white lily and sought to improve it by penciling on its petals the parti-colored fancies he had mixed on his pallet. He committed floral sacrilege and violated the first principles of art, which is strict conformity to nature. Paint is good in its place, but not to improve flowers. "Solomon, in all his glory, was not arrayed like one of these." Moral truths are grandest when clothed in severe attire. The adornments of art cannot add to the charms of truth. Let us continue Masonry in that uncorrupted form in which our fathers taught it—free from the garish decorations of the modern drama, and the high-sounding periods of bombastic oratory and poetry. We want no Johnsonianism in Masonry, and nought of the spectacular style.

Ninety-eight Chapters are borne upon the registry, having an aggregate membership of three thousand four hundred and sixty nine, and of this number two hundred and thirty-four are reported as ministers; this number affords two ministers to each Chapter, with a reserve corps of thirty-eight to distribute among Chapters under dispensation. Truly, the spiritual welfare of our companions in Kentucky is well provided for.

The *M. E.* J. P. RASCOE was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* PHILIP SWIGERT, who was first elected Grand Secretary fifty years ago, and with the exception of two years, has served continuously as such ever since, was reelected as Grand Secretary. We hope he may live to *grow old* in the service. We think he must have been, in his younger days, a good Boon(e) companion.

LOUISIANA.

The Grand Chapter of Louisiana held its twenty-fourth Annual Convocation in the city of New Orleans, commencing on the fourteenth day of February, 1871, the *M. E.* HUGH BREEN, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* J. C. BATCHELOR, "*M. D., P. D. G. H. P.*," being Grand Secretary. Why does not our worthy companion enlist the balance of the alphabet in his service? The meaning of *M. D.*, as a Masonic title, is to us *Most Dubious*, but we presume it is all right. We once knew a gentleman in the service of the United States, during the war with Mexico, who signed his name on the register of a fashionable hotel as JOHN BROWN, *M. D.*, and who was treated with great consideration and politeness until it was discovered that he was a professional *Mule Driver*, when he was requested to *move down* to a much different abiding place.

To us, the practice of tacking military and civic titles on to Masonic ones, appears most ridiculous; for instance: our distinguished Brother the *R. E.* General JOHN SMITH, Deputy Grand Master; or, our *M. E.* Companion, the Rev. Dr. JOSEPH BUG-

GINA, Grand High Priest, 33° &c. We believe that in Masonic publications, and in Masonic correspondence, Masonic titles alone should be used ; but this is only our opinion and we may be in error. Sixteen chartered Chapters and two under dispensations were represented at the opening.

The Grand High Priest, in his Address, says :

COMPANIONS—It affords me pleasure to state to you that the harmony of the subordinate bodies of Capitular Masonry in our beloved State, during the past year, has been continuous, affording opportunity for the healthy growth of our institution, and giving your Grand High Priest but little to comment upon. The various subordinate bodies have performed a large amount of Masonic work during the year, and as far as I have been able to ascertain, there has been no year in the history of this grand body when the material has been more carefully selected, and the labors of the Chapters more carefully and beneficially performed. There has been no rage for making Royal Arch Masons, and the prosperous condition of our Chapters generally has relieved from duty those ardent, but indiscreet, Companions who are sometimes anxious to build up the financial condition of their bodies by gathering into our tabernacle from the highways and byways of Symbolic Masonry, every stray brother who is able to spend or borrow enough money to pay his way to his exaltation. I regard the number of rejections reported by our Grand Secretary as a most healthy augury for the future of our order in Louisiana.

There are too many of the "ardent, but indiscreet, Companions," spoken of above, in every jurisdiction, and their well-meant, but mis-directed, zeal is often instrumental in introducing many an unsound and ill-formed stone into the Temple, which it is sometimes difficult to pluck out and throw among the rubbish.

The only decision reported is the following :

A brother received the Mark and Past Master's degree in *Delta R. A. Chapter No. 15, New Orleans*, and removed to the country. On his application, *Delta Chapter* gave him permission to take the M. E. M. and R. A. in *Bayou Sara R. A. Chapter No. 11*. He was duly exalted in that Chapter. Resuming his residence in New Orleans, and he having been instructed to pay the fees to *Delta Chapter*, the question arose as to which of the Chapters he properly belonged. I decided that he was a member of *Delta Chapter*, and own to some surprise that so plain a matter should have given rise to any difference of opinion. Perhaps it will not be amiss for me to say, that nine-tenths of the questions referred to the presiding officers of our Grand Bodies could be readily and satisfactorily solved, without such reference, if the officers and members of subordinate bodies would give a little of their leisure time to the study of the fundamental principles of Masonic law, and the rulings of the different bodies, as reported by our Committees on Foreign Correspondence.

Which decision was sustained by the Grand Chapter.

The following amendment to the Constitution, which was laid over at the last annual Convocation, was consigned to rest for another year :

The M. E. Grand High Priest may appoint a Grand Lecturer, whose duty it shall be to visit and instruct in the work of the Grand Chapter, such Chapters as may, in his opinion, need instruction ; for which service he shall receive an adequate compensation, of which the Grand Chapter shall pay a sum not exceeding five hundred dollars per annum. No companion shall be permitted to lecture in any Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, unless he be a member of a Chapter in this jurisdiction, or have authority to that effect from the Grand High Priest.

Dispensations were issued for the formation of two new Chapters, and three Special Dispensations were issued.

The Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia was formally recognized and welcomed into the sisterhood of Grand Chapters.

The Committee on "Chartered Chapters" commence their report with the following strange announcement :

Your Committee on Subordinate Chapters respectfully beg leave to report, that they have examined carefully the returns of the several Chapters, and find, strange to say, but four regular chartered Chapters, viz : *Orleans*, No. 1, *Shreveport*, No. 10, *Cyrus*, No. 12, *Delta* No. 15, who had made their returns and complied with all the requirements of the Constitution, a fact which the proper officers of the different Chapters should remedy, and not allow the next Convocation to open with the same fault. True, many came afterward and complied with all the constitutional laws, but the Grand Secretary had taken so much pains to forward directions that the fault is a grave one if allowed to continue, and a proper remedy applied immediately would do much good.

We think a judicious stirring up of High Priests and Secretaries would have a beneficial effect.

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances appears to have an easy time; reporting, as usual, nothing to do.

The Report on Correspondence is again from the pen of Comp. JOSEPH P. HORNER, and carefully reviews the transactions of twenty-four Grand Chapters, noting everything of interest in their proceedings. California receives fraternal notice, and the report of our predecessor is characterized as an "able paper."

In reviewing the proceedings of Iowa, he gets in the following good one on CORSON, of New Jersey :

Our confrère don't understand CORSON's declaration that the New Jersey delegation to Baltimore next September will not room so near the Louisianians as they did at St. Louis three years ago. Well, we'll explain, and our new brother shall have the experience for which we have duly paid our *pro rata*. At St. Louis, our delegation, having some idea of comfort, secured and arranged quite pleasant rooms, which, from the habits and regularity of its occupants, became known as the "Home of the Virtuous." Unfortunately, delegations from New Jersey, and other parts which shall be nameless, not liking their own quarters, repaired regularly to room No. 282, and made night hideous until near dawn, and consumed vast quantities of ice-water and matches at our expense, thus plundering us at once of our sleep and our money; and, in consideration of which, CORSON promised (rashly) that we should turn the tables upon them at Baltimore. Calm consideration has cooled both his blood and his generosity, and now he is trying to back out of his agreement, but he could no more help hanging around us when we do meet than he could——fly.

We are pleased to see that Comp. HORNER has received the reward of merit by being elected Deputy Grand High Priest, and we hope to greet him as Most Excellent, at the next annual Convocation. The M. : E. : M. E. GIRARD was elected Grand High Priest, and the R. : E. : JAMES C. BATCHELOR was reelected Grand Secretary.

MAINE.

The Grand Chapter of Maine assembled in annual Convocation in the city of Portland, on the second day of May, 1871, the M. : E. : STEPHEN YOUNG, Grand High Priest, presiding, the R. : E. : IRA BERRY being Grand Secretary. All the Chapters in the jurisdiction, thirty-three in number, were represented at the opening, and of the Grand officers, only the First and Third Vails were *pro tems*.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is confined, principally, to a record of his official acts. He says :

Nothing has come to my knowledge to disturb the harmony of the various Chapters in our jurisdiction, and the past year has seemed to be one of uninterrupted prosperity. It is a matter of pride with me, therefore, that I have little to present for your consideration but the bare record of my official acts.

He reports the issue of two dispensations for the formation of new Chapters, and two special dispensations for conferring degrees in less than the usual time. He evidently deems an apology for the last to be necessary, for he says :

The reasons in these cases were so strong that they overcame my almost invincible repugnance to documents of this nature; for, while I fully believe in the provision of the Constitution which provides for the dispensing power, I hold that this power should be exercised with extreme caution and only in rare cases.

The following question was submitted and decided :

A Companion requests a dimit from a Chapter. He has paid his dues, but refuses to pay a certain sum voluntarily subscribed by him for the benefit of the Chapter, and is accused of dishonesty in various business transactions. Is he entitled to a dimit?

Ans. He is entitled to a dimit unless charges are filed against him, and the alleged offences are proved, after due trial.

We hold that a companion is not entitled to a dimit while charges are pending against him; he must remain a member until he is vindicated or convicted.

He calls upon the Grand Chapter to fix the status of the District Deputy Grand High Priests, who, he says, are not members of the Grand Chapter, and have no vote by virtue of their office; he recommends that this be at once remedied, and that the

officers in question be provided with an appropriate official costume. He also recommends that some provision be made by which the members of the Grand Council will be enabled to retain possession of the insignia of their office during the year, in order that they may appear appropriately clothed in their official visits to subordinate Chapters. This is all very well, but our "special wonder" is excited as to the manner of men composing the Grand Council away down in Maine, when the Grand High Priest gravely proposes that they shall be required to give a good and sufficient bond for the safe return of the property at the expiration of their office. This, to us, appears to be a somewhat singular suggestion, but then we suppose Comp. Young is acquainted with his confrères upon the Grand Council.

He concludes with the following beautiful peroration:

Let me congratulate you upon the happy auspices under which we now come together.

While we are enjoying the blessings of peaceful prosperity, the seething tide of war is laying waste the fertile fields of Europe. While we meet with almost unbroken ranks, to exchange our fraternal greetings, many a lodge of the old world has become a Lodge of Sorrow for those who will see its lights no more.

We have but just emerged from the same flaming furnace, and the smell of fire is still on our garments.

We cannot better show our appreciation of the blessings of peace, than by laboring to perpetuate them; and nothing will conduce more to this effect than a diligent dissemination of the fundamental principles of our ancient Order. Let us then renew our zeal in this cause, and work hand in hand with religion for the good of our fellow-men. Whenever all men shall be brought to love God and their neighbor, an appeal to arms will be no longer possible, and war will disappear from the face of the earth.

Comp. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND presents a lengthy and able report upon the question of the employment of substitutes, and as this is a subject of general interest to the Craft we quote a portion of the report:

The Special Committee, to which was referred so much of our Grand High Priest's address last year as refers to the use of substitutes, ask leave to report.

They have endeavored to ascertain the early customs of Royal Arch Masons, as having an important bearing upon the question.

Availing themselves of the able address of Comp. WILLIAM S. GARDNER, at the Centennial Anniversary of St. Andrew's Chapter of Boston, in December, 1869, we find,

That the Royal Arch Degree was conferred in that Chapter (then appurtenant to St. Andrew's Lodge) in 1709; that so far as the record discloses, it was not conferred upon three brethren together till 1797; that in February, 1795, the Chapter voted, "That in future there shall only *two* be advanced to the Royal Arch Step the same evening."

It is a singular coincidence that the first time three brethren were exalted together was upon the occasion of the visit for the first time of THOMAS SMITH WEBB. The Chapter had been previously using the Irish Ritual. Soon after Comp. WEBB and HAMMER, from Temple Chapter, Albany, again visited the Chapter and conferred some of the degrees "after their manner."

At this time, undoubtedly, WEBB (who was made a Mason in 1792) was perfecting his system; for in the autumn of 1797, St. Andrew's Chapter adopted his work, and in conjunction with other Chapters took measures to form a Grand Chapter, which was accomplished in 1798, the date of the origin of the American system of Royal Arch Masonry. WEBB had published his Monitor the year before, but no forms for the installation of Chapter officers are given in it, and, therefore, we cannot tell whether the charge to the High Priest and the ritual containing the clause referring to the number of candidates, existed before 1798 or not. But the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, framed in January of that year, contains the portion of the charge referred to. It thus appears that the requirement of having three exalted together did not exist in Massachusetts before WEBB promulgated his system. We are informed by our Massachusetts Companions that the use of substitutes in that jurisdiction commenced when they adopted WEBB's system, and has continued ever since.

Turning now to New York, we have to regret that the early history of Temple Chapter, of which WEBB was a member, has never been published, so far as we can learn. It is the present practice there to use substitutes, and has been for many years; indeed, the earliest proceedings to which we have had access (1824) indicate that they were then used as a matter of course.

He also refers to ten other Grand Chapters which have been in existence for more than fifty years, all of which, he asserts, have authorized the use of substitutes. The

opposition to the practice, manifested in many jurisdictions, arises, he says, "from the language of the ritual, and the installation charge to the High Priest. They are in direct conflict with the practice; but the fact is, the practice is older than the ritual, and when the ritual was adopted, the old practice was not changed to conform to it."

The following resolutions were adopted as Standing Regulations:

Resolved, That in the absence of the High Priest, King and Scribe from any meeting of a Chapter, the next officer in rank shall preside, unless he request a Past High Priest to officiate for him.

Resolved, That in the absence of the High Priest, King and Scribe from any Chapter under this jurisdiction, no degrees shall be conferred unless a Past High Priest is present to preside.

The Report on Correspondence is as usual from the facile pen of Comp. DRUMMOND, and is one of the best reports we have yet had the pleasure of perusing. He reviews the transactions of thirty-six Grand Chapters, but omits ours for the very good reason that our proceedings for 1871 had not been received by him.*

Comp. DRUMMOND understands the reason of the delay in their issue, and we promise him that no cause of complaint shall exist in future, if we can avoid it.

In reviewing the transactions of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, he thus gently chides Comp. MASON for the *carelessness* of his style:

Comp. J. EDWIN MASON presented an able Report on Correspondence, but marred, we are sorry to say, by things too carelessly—to speak mildly—written. Comp. M. is a nervous, vigorous writer, and his style is sharp and incisive; but we believe him to be above saying a *severe* thing undeserved, for the sake of saying a *sharp* one.

While his Grand Chapter was battling for its life, we made due allowance, but now when all questions have been settled, we dislike to see him fighting the battles over again with the same zeal and excitement.

Comp. HENDERSON, of Kentucky, gets a smart rap over the knuckles, in the following:

Comp. H. A. M. HENDERSON presented the Report on Correspondence, a brief summary with few comments, and a poor reason given for making them few.

But if he should not be more happy in his comments than he is in the following reply to Comp. BELL, we commend his prudence in being so chary of them:

"Under the head of SECEDED CHAPTERS Kentucky is reviewed. From what did our Grand Chapter ever secede? It was never a member of the General Grand Chapter. As it never *acceded*, how could it secede?"

For, the three Chapters which formed the Grand Chapter of Kentucky, were chartered by THOMAS SMITH WEBB, as Deputy General Grand High Priest, under the authority of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter; those three Chapters, *reciting that constitution as their authority*, and proceeding according to the instructions of WEBB, formed the Grand Chapter, which then asked the approbation of the General Grand Chapter, sent delegates to its session in 1819, obtained its approbation and recognition, was represented in it in 1826, 1847, 1850, 1853 and 1856; and in 1857 it adopted the following resolution: "*Resolved*, That this Grand Chapter hereby dissolves its connection with the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America; and that the subordinates of this Grand Chapter govern themselves accordingly."

"Can the blind lead the blind? Shall they not both fall into the ditch?"

We confess to being provoked at such blunders as this of Comp. H., and the more because there is such a general carelessness—not to say ignorance—in relation to masonic history upon nearly all questions, that if it was in secular matters, it would seem to be, and would be held to be, willful perversion of the truth. We speak in sorrow, rather than in anger.

The following history of the Order of High Priesthood will be found exceedingly interesting, and we trust we shall be excused for quoting it entire:—

THE ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTHOOD.

The action of the Grand Chapter of New York in assuming jurisdiction over this Order, has attracted the attention of the Craft to consider its real office. Comp. A. I. SAWYER submitted a report to the Grand Council of Michigan, which we copy (save a little) as the best introduction to our own discussion:—

* Our proceedings reached him while his report was going through the press, and a brief but fraternal notice appears at the end of his report, instead of being in their proper place.

"It is impossible," says Dr. **MACKEY**, "from the want of authentic documents, to throw much light upon the historical origin of this degree. No allusion to it can be found in any ritual works out of America, nor even here anterior to about the end of the last and beginning of this century. **WEBB** is the first who mentions it, and gives it a place in the series of Capitular degrees."

Dr. **MITCHELL**, in his work entitled "History of Freemasonry and Masonic Digest," says, "We have not yet examined the history of the origin of the Order of High Priesthood, but we do not hesitate to say, that it is a thing of modern invention; indeed, so recently has this imposing Order been introduced, that pre-disposed as the Craft everywhere seems to be to embrace every newly invented appendage to Freemasonry, this Order or degree has not yet become universally known throughout the United States. Twenty years ago we had never heard of it." And further on he says: "But we do not regard this as at all remarkable, knowing, as we do, that the degree has no sort of connection with Freemasonry," &c., &c.

Comp. **WILLIAM HACKER**, President of the Council of High Priests of Indiana, for the last twelve or fifteen years, in his beautiful little manual of the Order, says: "WEBB, in the second edition of his 'Monitor,' published in 1802, makes the first mention of it, that has as yet been found; and but little doubt need be entertained that WEBB and his associates, **SNOW**, **FOWLE**, and **GLEASON**, were the real authors of it. Where they got the germ or original idea from, is as equally unknown, but doubtless this was wholly original with them, as nothing they were known to be in possession of at the time will bear any comparison in the most remote particular, to the Order of High Priesthood, as they have handed it down to us."

Comp. **HACKER** also says he has examined "an old manuscript said to be in the handwriting of **JOHN SNOW**, in the earlier days of his manhood, in which was contained a very succinct draft of the Order as we now have it, and which, doubtless, is as near the original draft as will ever be obtained."

In a private letter dated October 26, 1870, Comp. **HACKER** says: "In regard to the Order of High Priesthood, the manner in which it has been kept and administered until within a few years past has really given it no history. I investigated the subject some twelve years since, and became convinced that **JOHN SNOW**, late of Ohio, was really the author of it, about, or between the years 1797 and 1801."

The "old manuscript" referred to, he says, "was the esoteric ritual of the Order complete, which I copied, and it is the ritual adopted and used in this State ever since."

In a private letter from Companion **JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND**, of Maine, who informs me that he is preparing a report for the Grand Chapter of his State upon the subject of High Priesthood, he says: "The earliest record I have found of the conferring of the degree or Order is in the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, in which it is recorded that **HENRY FOWLE** conferred it in Maine in July, 1820." Further on he says: "I always supposed it was arranged by WEBB. In the Monitor of 1797 no allusion is made to it; in the edition of 1802 it is given as a regular thing and no mention made of its history, etc., so I had taken it for granted that WEBB invented it between 1797 and 1802," etc.

In justice to Comp. **DRUMMOND** it is proper that I should add that he says: "But I have really just begun my inquiries," etc.

Comp. **HAZELRIGG**, of Indiana, in a private letter written sometime in July, I think, substantially agrees with what I have already quoted as to origin, history, etc., of the Order, but placing an estimate as to the importance of the Order similar to Dr. **MITCHELL**. I would have preferred using his own language, but unfortunately have mislaid his letter and can not do so; a circumstance I very much regret.

From the foregoing and other documentary evidence your committee concluded: First, that the exact origin of the Order, the precise time when and by whom first arranged and taught, are, and probably ever will be, wrapped in a mist of impenetrable doubt and uncertainty. But that it was founded some time between the years 1797 and 1802, and probably by WEBB, SNOW, FOWLE, and GLEASON, first published in WEBB's Monitor of 1802, and first taught by one or more of the parties above mentioned. Nothing is certain, however, which of the gentlemen named had the honor of first inaugurating, inventing, or teaching it, although it would seem to your committee that **JOHN SNOW** has precedence of the others in this particular.

Secondly, that "the manner in which it has been kept and administered, until within a few years past, has really given it no history."

One thing is certain, viz: Grand Councils of High Priests are of comparatively recent origin, and until conferred under the auspices of Grand Councils, but little that is reliable connected with the Order can be found. Then the real history of the Order of High Priesthood commences in each State.

For instance, a Grand Council of High Priests was organized in 1838 in Ohio, in 1849 in Connecticut, between 1852 and 1856 [1853] in Kentucky, in 1857 in Maine and California, and not till 1861 in our own State—but ten years ago, at which time (January 10, 1861,) our much honored, Most Excellent President, (Comp. **EBENEZER**

SPRAGUE,) was set apart and solemnly consecrated to the office of High Priest of the Order.

Notwithstanding all this, as Comp. HACKER very appropriately says, the Order "has in its structure all the elements of sublimity and impressiveness. Its covenants are solemn and forcible; its means of recognition are alike ingenious, simple, full of dignity, and both scriptural and masonically appropriate, and when conferred as its just merits demand, has never failed to excite the admiration of the recipient or to increase his zeal in the great cause of human benefaction."

CHRONOLOGY OF THE ORDER. So far as your committee have been able to find, no special chronological date has ever yet been assigned to the Order of High Priesthood, but that the christian or common era has generally been adopted. Occasionally the Royal Arch Era has been used; not for any particular reason, however, except from its association with capitular Masonry, and then only incidentally.

But if the degree of High Priesthood is to be elevated to the dignity of an Order, and its conventions graced with the significant title of Grand Councils, your committee see no good reason why it should not also have an era peculiar to its own, as well as other degrees, systems, or orders of Masonry. And assuming this to be the case, they would follow the plan of the rest and make it coeval with the legend, event, or idea represented or significant in the ceremonies pertaining to the degree, system, or order.

Following the example, we must go back to the battle of the nine kings, and the blessing of Abram by Melchisedek, after returning from the slaughter of Chedorlamer and his associates, that being the principal event exemplified in the ceremonies of the Order.

That being 1911 years B. C., we shall have to add that amount to the Christian era, making ours 3782. It has been suggested that we might follow the Knights Templar, and date from the origin of the Order.

But since it is impossible, with our present knowledge, to ascertain whether our Order was founded in the year 1797, '98, '99, 1800, 1801, or 1802, and since the date of the legend or event exemplified or commemorated in the ceremonies of the degree, is a matter of historical record; and further, that although the Knights Templar profess to date from the origin of the Order, nevertheless it is also a historical fact that they really date from the year in which Baldwin, king of Jerusalem, assigned them a place of retreat in a Christian Church, called the Church of the Holy Temple, "while protecting the pilgrims through the passes and defiles of the mountains to the Holy City." We would, therefore, prefer to take our chronology from the principal historical fact commemorated in the ceremonies of the Order, viz: the blessing of Melchisedek, which took place, as before stated, 1911 B. C., making, according to that plan, our present date, as before stated, 3782.

If we accept the above and adopt the plan suggested, it yet remains to select a proper synonym to use in connection with the figures already mentioned, commemorative in itself of the event upon which the degree or Order is founded.

Upon this point your committee had intended to remain silent, preferring to leave the matter to your own judgments, but upon more mature reflection and further research, have finally concluded to present the following elaboration of their views by Camp. HACKER, as a proof of this report, and recommend its adoption, viz: "To what language shall we go for a proper term to denote the chronology?" If we go to the Shemitic languages we have the word *borak* or *boraka*, to bless, to wish a blessing to, or invoke a blessing on, etc. But these same articulations also mean in the languages in which they are used, to curse, to blaspheme. That being the case it would, in my opinion, not be very appropriate, and its double meaning objectionable. When we look to the Japhetic stock we find the words *BEO FACIO*, *Blessed* or *to Bless*, *to bless and to make happy*. This, like the former, does not seem to have a double and opposite meaning, and would, therefore, not be as objectionable as the other; this might be abbreviated thus, A. B.—But there would be an objection to that as it has already been adopted as signifying a degree conferred in our schools and colleges of learning. Then, to obviate that objection, we might fix it thus: A. BEO.—*Anno Beo Facio*, the year of the blessing.

We think, however, the Order originated in January, 1799, at the session of the General Grand Chapter, and that WEBB was its author. He was at that session appointed chairman of a Committee to report a Constitution, and did so. In that Constitution he gives forms for installing High Priests. After the questions are answered and the installation prayer made, "All the companions, except High Priests and Past High Priests, are then requested to withdraw, while the new High Priest is solemnly bound to the performance of his duties; and after the performance of other necessary ceremonies, not proper to be written, they are permitted to return." The Grand High Priest then declares him "duly installed and anointed High Priest."

That this alluded to the Order of High Priesthood, there can be no doubt. The form for installation follows that of the installation of the Master of a Lodge, and the foregoing proceedings are had in lieu of conferring the Past Master's degree. Mark

also the force of the word "anointed." This provision remained in the Constitution fifty-four years, till 1853, when the General Grand Chapter decided that the Order is not a necessary part of the installation of a High Priest, and struck out this provision from the Constitution. Any one familiar with WEBB's ritual of the Past Master's degree cannot fail to perceive that the author of this Order was familiar with that degree.

WEBB was made a Mason in 1792, and in 1797 had apparently introduced his work into *Temple Chapter*, at Albany. In the latter part of that year he visited Boston and exemplified his work there, and it was adopted. DERMOR's Royal Arch was conferred only on Past Masters; and WEBB made that degree a part of the Chapter system, and it was also made a part of the ceremonies of installation of a Master. What more natural, when he came to prepare ceremonies for installation of High Priests, than that he should invent a similar degree for Past High Priests?

From our examination, we have not the slightest doubt that the Order was originally intended to be a part of the ceremonies at the installation of a High Priest. The Constitution of the General Grand Chapter so recognized it for more than fifty years. But it frequently happened that it was not practicable to confer at that time; and in such cases it was conferred at some convenient time afterwards. This happened so frequently that it became the rule. The same thing often happened in regard to the degree of Past Master. It was not practicable for the installing officer to confer that degree upon the Master elect, and it was deferred to some more convenient time. We have known Masters of Lodges who were not instructed in that degree till years after they went out of office. We have no doubt that the practice of conferring the Order of High Priesthood *after* installation grew up in the same manner and from the same causes. In fact, in the States in which it is now a part of the installation ceremonies, the same practice still prevails. When the practice of balloting upon applications first arose, we cannot ascertain. That practice changed the whole system. If the High Priests had a right to ballot, they had a right to reject. One of two consequences followed: either the Order is not a necessary qualification for a High Priest, or a power outside of the Chapter and the Grand Chapter, responsible to neither, prevents the installation of an officer elected by his Chapter, or reasons satisfactory to themselves, or for no reasons at all.

The General Grand Chapter took the first horn of the dilemma, deciding that the Order is not a necessary qualification for a High Priest, but a mere *honorarium* conferred by the possessors of it upon such of those duly qualified as they choose to select, and that consequently the General Grand Chapter has no jurisdiction over it. The same view is held in all the jurisdictions in which Grand Councils of the Order exist, so far as we have any knowledge.

In either view, the action of the Grand Chapter of New York in assuming control of it, is erroneous, in our judgment. The action of the Grand Council in deciding that it is a part of the installation ceremony, we believe to be a return to the original plan of the Order. But the step taken by the Grand Chapter does not follow as a consequence. We know of no Grand Lodge which assumes to control the degree of Past Master. Grand Lodges can know whether a man is a Past Master or not only *from the record of his installation and service as such*. It cannot inquire whether all the ceremonies of his installation were correctly performed. When such a Past Master desires admission among his fellows who have taken the degree, they alone have the means of knowing, Masonically, whether he has taken the degree or not. If not, he is legally entitled to receive it, and it is their duty to confer it. We hold, in the same manner, that all the knowledge a Grand Chapter can have whether a man is a High Priest or not, must be derived from the record of his installation and service, as such. Those in possession of this Order only can know Masonically whether he has taken it or not. It is true that in these Councils a record is kept, and frequently certified to the Grand Chapter. But the latter must take it *on trust*; it can have no Masonic knowledge in the matter.

Our conclusion is, that the Order should be deemed a qualification of a High Priest, and as instruction, to which every elected High Priest (except those to whom installation may for good reason be refused) is entitled, as matter of right, and which he should obtain at the earliest practicable period; that it can be conferred nowhere so well as in these Grand Councils; that they should be continued for that purpose, but should not attempt to exercise any discretion as to whether they would confer it or not upon qualified candidates, and hence should never ballot upon any application; and that the Grand Chapter has nothing whatever to do with it. But we think we would not make this the exclusive manner of receiving the Order. We would retain the practice in Virginia of allowing three Past High Priests to confer it at the time of installation. This would give the Grand High Priest the power (which he should possess) of seeing that the officers of Chapters are properly installed and instructed.

In regard to the chronology, we think our Michigan companions are clearly right in selecting the time from which to date; but we do not think they have adopted a

proper name for the date. We do not believe in taking words from different languages, for such purpose. The Latin is used for Masonic dates in all other cases in the York Rite; and we would follow the same rule in this case—*Anno Benedictionis* seems to us much preferable to *Anno Beo Facio*.

Thirty-three chartered Chapters and two under dispensation; membership, 3069.

The *M. E.* STEPHEN YOUNG was reelected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* IRA BERRY was reelected Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND.

The Grand Chapter of Maryland held a Special Convocation in the city of Baltimore on the ninth day of May, 1871, for the purpose of installing the Grand Officers elect, and to make arrangements for the entertainment of the General Grand Chapter, to convene in that city in September. Little was done except to request the High Priests of the various Chapters to recommend the appropriation of such amounts of money as each Chapter could afford, to defray the expenses incident to the occasion.

The Annual Convocation was held at the same place on the thirteenth day of November, 1871—the *R. E.* CHARLES H. OHR, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* WILLIAM A. WENTZ being Grand Secretary. Seven Chapters were represented.

The Grand High Priest in his Address says:—

In September last the General Grand Chapter of the United States held its Triennial Convocation in the hall in which we are now assembled. It is needless for me to say that its meetings were characterized by *friendship*, by *fervency* and *zeal*, but it affords me much pleasure to say to you that the spirit of *union* prevailed and predominated over all. There was not the sound of axe, hammer, or any other destructive or offensive tool heard on the walls of our mystic temples, but willing hearts and hands have deepened and broadened its foundations; its pillars and altars have been purified; its ornaments and jewels have been brightened, its covering and its lights have been extended to the uttermost corner of the earth. Who is there among us all that will dare to stretch his hand with sacrilegious intent to lay hold on the ark of our covenant to set it up in the Temple of Dagon or discord?

Among some of its work is the correction of errors which have crept into the work, and which corrections will be communicated to you during the present session of our Grand Chapter for the future government of our subordinate Chapters. Many of the representatives of the General Grand Chapter being representatives also in the General Grand Encampment, both meeting at the same period and holding sessions interchangeably, time was not sufficient for all the work that it was desirable should be done. Something however was accomplished, and as the next Triennial Convocation of these Grand Bodies are not to be held at the same time or place, more time will be allowed for the deliberation and action of both, and more may be accomplished for the good of each.

He reports the issue of two dispensations to form new Chapters, and that during the year past no sound of discord has arisen to disturb the prevailing harmony.

He quietly intimates to the Grand Chapter that, as they have no available Past Grand High Priest, it would afford him pleasure to occupy that position; in other words, he declined a reelection, having served three years as Grand High Priest. From the report of the Committee on Finances it appears that the balance in the treasury amounts to \$314 93.

The Report on Correspondence is from the pen of Comp. HERMON L. EMMONS, JR. He reviews the transactions of thirty-six Grand Chapters, California for 1871 receiving fraternal notice. In most instances he presents those portions of the transactions of the several Grand Chapters which are of general interest without note or comment. Nine chartered Chapters are borne upon the roll, and two under dispensation; the membership we have not time to figure up.

The *M. E.* GEO. L. MCCAHAN was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* WM. A. WENTZ was reelected Grand Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS.

We have received the transactions of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts at its Quarterly Convocations held March 8th, June 7th, and September 13th, and the Annual Convocation held December 13th, 1870.

At the first Quarterly Convocation the Grand High Priest delivered a brief address, in which he recited his official acts since the last Annual Convocation. He reported the issue of two dispensations to form new Chapters ; one at North Bridgewater, the other at West Harwich.

He complains of the neglect of some of the Chapters to make their returns to the Grand Chapter, and suggests the adoption of some measures to insure prompt and complete returns.

In one of his visits to a subordinate Chapter, he witnessed the advancing to the Mark Master's degree, of a youth of eighty-two summers, who had been fifty-four years a Mason, and whose zeal had suffered no abatement, but had rather increased with his years. Some of the companions, in recognition of the past services of the venerable brother in the Symbolic Lodges, contributed the means to enable him to pass within the vails of the tabernacle, and he is reported to have entered into the spirit of the ceremonies with all the zeal and interest of youth.

The Grand High Priest says : " The event was, to my mind, a very pretty illustration of the spirit of love and equality prevailing our beloved Fraternity, and of the deep and abiding attachment of the fathers to it." He visited, in February, the Grand Chapter of New York, and speaks in glowing terms of the courtesy and hospitality exhibited by the companions of that jurisdiction.

He witnessed the conferring of the Order of High Priesthood, and says the ceremony was very impressive, but differed materially from that used in Massachusetts.

Two donations of twenty-five dollars each were granted to widows of Royal Arch Masons.

At the other quarterly Convocations nothing of importance was done, except the issue of two dispensations to form new Chapters.

The M. E. HENRY CHICKERING, Grand High Priest, presided at all the meetings, the R. E. THOMAS WATERMAN being Grand Secretary.

At the Annual Convocation, forty Chapters were represented, fifty being borne upon the Register. The Grand Chapter was opened in ample form, prayer being offered by one of the three Grand Chaplains.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is lengthy, and principally devoted to the recital of his official acts and other matters of local interest. He says :—

The past year has been one of almost uninterrupted prosperity, throughout our jurisdiction, and we have the most abundant cause for thankfulness for the harmony that has prevailed, and for the steady growth and progress of our Order, in every part of the State.

During the year dispensations have been granted for six new Chapters, and five that were previously under dispensation, have been chartered and constituted ; the two together (dispensated and chartered) equal one-fourth of all the chartered ones at the commencement of the year ; while applications for not less than four more new ones are, to my knowledge, to be presented at the present Convocation ; surely here is growth, which if natural and healthy, as I believe it is, we may feel truly grateful for, and take a just pride in. Let us not forget, however, that the greatest and most enduring strength, does not always consist in *numbers*, and be careful that we find *positive*, and not mere *negative* arguments for the establishment of new Chapters, as well as *positive* qualities of fitness and character in all candidates upon whom we confer Sublime Degrees.

The office of Grand High Priest, in this jurisdiction, appears to be no sinecure. He personally visited, during the year, thirty-seven Chapters, consecrated five of the number, and installed the officers of several others. He reports that, during the two years he presided over the Royal Craft, he has personally visited every Chapter in the State, and some of them twice. This is good work, and square work ; would that such zeal were contagious.

He complains that in some instances the Chapter has been used simply as a stepping-stone to other degrees and orders ; many, after taking the Chapter degrees as a pre-requisite to advancement, lose all interest in the meetings, and are seen no more except upon some rare occasion of especial interest.

He alludes to a practice which he says has prevailed for years in some of the Chapters, of doing business in any degree in which they may chance to be open, and when Mark Masters, Past Masters, or Most Excellent Masters may be present. This practice he justly condemns, and urges that there is quite as much reason for requiring the business of the Chapter to be transacted only in the Royal Arch degree, as that of the Blue Lodge only in the Master's. The Committee to whom the Address was referred, reported in favor of a regulation requiring all business to be done in the Royal Arch degree, but the Grand Chapter refused to adopt the report, and the same slip-slod method prevails. Either the Grand High Priest or the Grand Chapter has exhibited a lack of good sense in this matter, and we are inclined to the belief that the head of the Grand High Priest is eminently "level" upon this, as upon most matters of which he treats in his admirable Address.

The following commends itself to our judgment as a good idea, and is new to us :

In one Chapter I found a practice which may, perhaps, prevail in others, though I am not aware of it, in reference to the referring of petitions for degrees and membership, which strikes me favorably, and which I therefore mention. Instead of announcing publicly the names of the committee to whom a petition is referred, the High Priest appoints them privately, and either himself or through the Secretary, notifies each one, without informing him who the others of the committee are. Each one investigates the case himself and reports to the High Priest in writing, so that whatever the report may be, the author of it is not known except to the High Priest and, perhaps, the Secretary. Thus the report of the committee as well as the ballot, is secret, and it seems to me this will tend to make committees more free and independent to express their real judgment of the merits of a candidate, without fear of being compromised.

He mentions the fact of the suspension of CZAR JONES, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Michigan, for violating an edict of that Grand Chapter "against the circulation of keys," and intimates that, if such an edict existed in Massachusetts, there might possibly be found those who would be obnoxious to the same charge.

In fact, this Grand High Priest has been going around with his eyes open, and speaks "right out in meetin'" concerning those things which meet his disapproval. Dispensations were ordered to be issued for the formation of four new Chapters.

The Grand Council was appointed a Committee to procure a suitable testimonial to be presented to the R.: E.: PETER C. JONES, who had faithfully and acceptably discharged the duties of Grand Treasurer, without compensation, for a period of eighteen years.

The Report on Correspondence, presented by Companion JOHN W. DADMUN, is an interesting and carefully prepared paper, and its perusal has afforded us much pleasure. He presents an able review of the transactions of thirty-five Grand Chapters, California, for 1870, being among the number. He is a staunch defender of the General Grand Chapter, and meets the attacks of its opposers with arguments which they will find it difficult to controvert.

In reference to the assumption of control of the Order of High Priesthood by the Grand Chapter of New York, he says :

If, "before the adoption of the present regulations, the Order was in irresponsible hands," it certainly was in a very unfortunate condition, and something should have been done ; but the question is, should the Grand Chapter confer the Order ? Here we are met with the statement that "the Grand Chapter *does not confer the degree or Order*, but *sanctions* its being conferred by those who possess it, &c." Is the Order conferred in any jurisdiction by those who do *not* possess it ? and is it conferred where it is not sanctioned by the Grand Chapter. If not, why could not our New York Companions manage this whole matter without taking it into the Grand Chapter ? If it is indispensable to the qualification of a High Priest, make it a part of the installation ceremony. New York may be all right on this subject, but Massachusetts "can't see it."

Neither can we.

The aggregate membership of fifty Chapters is 6,129. The M.: E.: HENRY CHICKERING was reelected Grand High Priest, and the R.: E.: ALFRED F. CHAPMAN was elected Grand Secretary.

MINNESOTA.

The Grand Chapter of Minnesota held its tenth Annual Convocation in the city of St. Paul, commencing on the tenth day of January, A. I. 2401—the *M. E. E. D.* B. PORTER presiding, the *R. E. W. S.* COMBS being Grand Secretary. Sixteen subordinates were represented.

The Address of the Grand High Priest relates entirely to matters of local interest. He reports the appointment of twenty three Representatives near other Grand Chapters, in compliance with a resolution adopted at the last Annual Convocation. He renders the following

OPINIONS AND DECISIONS.

In the "Uniform Code of By-Laws," adopted by this Grand Chapter in 1868, the time of meeting—time of holding elections—the amount of yearly dues, &c., were left blank, and no specific authority granted by the Grand Chapter to subordinates to fill said blanks. In consequence of this, *Winona* Chapter, No. 5, (through its learned Secretary,) presented me with a very lengthy communication, containing a *few* questions, with a *great many* answers. The only question which I thought required any answer was the following:—

"Whether, in the opinion of the Grand High Priest, this Chapter has any authority to fill the said blanks legally? and if yea, from whence derived?"

To the first interrogatory I answered, *Yes*. As to the "from whence derived," I did not see fit to give any answer, not considering myself specially accountable to the Secretary of said Chapter for my action in the premises.

I received a request from the High Priest of *Owatonna* Chapter, No. 15, to grant a dispensation to hold an election for High Priest, he being about to leave for State Prison—as Warden.

To this I replied, "that it was not necessary, nor would it be proper, to hold an election for High Priest until the next regular election. In the absence of the High Priest it is the right and duty of the King to succeed him. I regard the *right* of the King to succeed the High Priest as a *personal right* vested in him, and that no dispensation can issue to set it aside and order an election; for it is an undoubted principle of justice that the Grand High Priest has no prerogative to interfere, by his dispensing power, with the rights of individuals.

A High Priest in one of our Chapters presents the following:—

"The following questions having arisen in our Chapter, I beg leave to submit the same for your opinion:—

"1. Is it proper in exalting to the Royal Arch Degree, in order to make the full complement of candidates required, to count as such one who has previously been exalted to that august, sublime degree, usually denominated a 'dummy'?"

"2. When, as in our Chapter, some of the companions have conscientious scruples against being present at the conferring of that degree, under such circumstances, ask to retire from the Chapter, (for these reasons,) is it proper to refuse their request?"

To the first question I answer, that by the ruling of Past Grand High Priest SMITH, the use of substitutes, or "dummies," is proper; but *my opinion* is that the practice is wrong and should not be tolerated.

Among other questions to which a companion is required to give unequivocal answers before he can be installed as High Priest of a Chapter, is the following:—

"That you will never suffer either more or less than three brethren to be exalted in your Chapter at one and the same time?"

The Royal Arch O. B. contains a similar vow. Now, it does seem to me that a companion who can knowingly assume such an O. B. and then sanction the use of "substitutes," must have a conscience as elastic as that of a modern politician.

To the second question I answer, *No*.

The following questions were not received in time to send an answer to the companion presenting them; he will, therefore, be governed by the action which the Grand Chapter may take in reference thereto:—

"1. Can a member be stricken from the roll by a vote of the Chapter of which the delinquent is a member, or is it subject to the action of the Grand Chapter?"

Answer.—The subordinate Chapter has full power to control the matter without any action by the Grand Chapter.

"2. If, as High Priest, I issue a summons to each companion to attend the regular and special convocations of the Chapter, and they fail to obey, or report a reasonable excuse, can I deny them admission to the Chapter? If not, what action is necessary in the matter?"

Answer.—If admission is denied on the objection of a fellow member, the objector must have charges preferred. The same law obtains as in symbolic Masonry. In

such a case as that mentioned, charges should be preferred for unmasonic conduct, in failing or refusing to obey a summons.

He reports the issue of two dispensations for the formation of new Chapters, and recommends that the office of Grand Lecturer be created, said office to be filled by appointment of the Grand High Priest. He says:—

There are, in nearly all our Chapters, quite a number of members who seem to be Royal Arch Masons only in name; they take but little interest in the work or business of the Chapter; they seem to have lost, if they ever possessed, that "fervency and zeal which should actuate all Royal Arch Masons, and is peculiarly characteristic of that degree." I have observed with regret, that in many cases companions who have spent a few years in official positions, in Chapter and Lodge also, as soon as they are superceded in office cease to take any interest in Masonry. They show by their actions that they became Masons in order that they might be recipients of the honors conferred by the Craft, rather than from the desire "to be good and do good," which should be the ruling motive of every Mason.

We desire to inform our *M. E.* companion that a few of that sort might be found in this jurisdiction, provided diligent search was made for them.

The Committee on Grievances report themselves in a state of beatific idleness; no one having been considerate enough to afford them an opportunity to display their powers.

The Committee on Jurisprudence concur in the decisions of the Grand High Priest; so do we, except in the matter of substitutes, where we beg leave to dissent; our views are expressed in the report of Comp. DRUMMOND, given in our review of the transactions of the Grand Chapter of Maine.

The Report on Correspondence was presented by Comp. A. T. C. PIERSON, in which he reviews the transactions of thirty-five Grand Chapters, California for 1870 among the number. He quotes our regulation, requiring all petitions for degrees or applications for membership to be signed with the full name of the petitioner or applicant, and recommends it to his Grand Chapter, as he says there are several "J. Johnsons and J. Smiths" in that jurisdiction. He quotes the remarks of our predecessor on the right of a High Priest "under certain circumstances to resign," and says: "But we do not believe in statutes or resolutions declaring the dogma that officers of Masonic bodies, 'under certain circumstances,' can resign (if they can resign of course they are entitled to a dimit) without *stating* what are those *certain circumstances*." We believe an officer of a Masonic body has the right to resign when placed in a position which debars him from the performance of his duties as such; (provided such position is the result of no criminal act) as in case of a permanent removal from the jurisdiction, or when the demands of legitimate business, in which he engaged subsequent to his election and installation, require his whole time and attention. We are taught that "it is not meant that Masonry should interfere with our necessary vocations, for these are on no account to be neglected." Or a High Priest might be stricken with paralysis and forever rendered incapable of attending to his Chapter. In either of the above named cases we believe a High Priest or any other Masonic officer would have the right to resign. The report is an excellent one and well repays the perusal.

Comp. G. W. MERRILL was elected Grand High Priest, and Comp. W. S. COMBS was reelected Grand Secretary.

MISSISSIPPI.

The Grand Chapter of Mississippi held its twenty-third Annual Convocation in the city of Vicksburg, commencing on the twentieth day of January, 1871—the *M. E.* ROBERT B. MAYES, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* J. L. POWER acting as Grand Secretary. Sixty-eight Chapters were represented.

The Grand High Priest prefaces his address with a sermon worthy of JOHN WESLEY or JONATHAN EDWARDS. We dislike to spoil so excellent a paper by selecting detached portions of it, but its length precludes the possibility of our quoting it en-

tire, so we must e'en content ourselves with making such extracts as time and space will permit us to make use of. He discourseth thus upon the uses of adversity :—

A long lease of earthly happiness inclines us to accept the blessings which bloom along the path of life, as things of course. It is those who are chosen in the furnace of affliction, rather than those who bask in the sunshine of prosperity, who learn, in whatsoever state they be, therewith to be content; and to say, with righteous Job, who was tried with the extremes of prosperity and adversity: "Shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil?" They learn to accept the chastisements of the Lord as evidences, not of his displeasure, but his love; for "whom the Lord loveth He correcteth, even as a father the son in whom he delighteth." When thus accepted, "the light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory."

It would be gross error to suppose that the rich man's access to God's kingdom is difficult because it is wicked to be wealthy, or that there is any intrinsic merit in poverty. In the possession of riches lies the temptation, but not the sin; for it cannot be sinful to seek, accept, and enjoy any blessing which cometh down from the Father of Lights. Great was the opulence of Job, but he did not make gold his hope. He opened his door to the traveler; he did not see the poor without clothing; he delivered the fatherless and the helpless; and he caused the widow's heart to sing for joy. He was eyes to the blind, feet to the lame, a father to the poor. In all this he sinned not. I commend him as an excellent model for every companion Royal Arch Mason, for he received and dispensed his wealth as a faithful steward of the Lord. The sin is not in the use, but in the abuse of temporal prosperity; in an idolatrous eagerness of pursuit which disregards other and paramount duties; in consuming God's favors on our own lusts; in failing to communicate to others as the Lord has prospered us, and to render thanks to Him from whom come riches and honor.

So close is the relation between the duties of Masonry and the temporal duties of religion, that those who are most faithful to their religious profession are ever most true to their Masonic obligations. The vicious tendencies which close our hearts to God, harden them to our fellow-men. Especially does "covetousness, which is idolatry," at once dethrone God, substituting self as the centre of the universal circle, and thrust our fellow-men and fellow-Masons into a circumference too distant for the scope of our contracted sympathies. The insatiate hunger and thirst for corruptible and corrupting riches, which pervade all classes of our people, have caused the cooling of Masonic fervency. Let the indigent Mason reflect that poverty is not earth's greatest ill; the affluent Mason, that wealth is not the greatest earthly good. Let both, remembering the counsel of our great Masonic brother, "gather gear"—

"Not for to hide it in a hedge,
Not for a brain attendant;
But for the glorious privilege
Of being independent;"

and, permit me to add, for the blessed privilege of relieving distress. For, to quote from another of Scotland's great intellectual lights, speaking in the character of an humble Scottish maiden: "When the hour of trouble comes * * and when the hour of death comes, that comes to high and low * * it is nae what we have done for ourselves, but what we have done for others that we think on most pleasantly."

He reports the death of Comp. OSCAR T. KEELER, Grand Secretary, and the appointment of Comp. J. L. POWER as Grand Secretary, *ad interim*.

We recommend the following to the careful consideration of the anti-substitutes, mildly suggesting that the use of substitutes is a far less objectionable method of getting round a difficulty than the plan here adopted :—

On the application of a M. E. High Priest, representing that he could seldom get a meeting of his Chapter, for want of members; that two brothers had been prepared for exaltation, and that if a class could be exalted, the difficulty of securing regular meetings would be removed, I granted a dispensation authorizing a ballot for a third brother, (recommended to me by the companion making the request, as worthy and well qualified), without the delay usually required by the By-Laws for the government of subordinate Chapters.

DECISIONS.

In response to a letter of inquiry, I decided that a Royal Arch Mason, whose standing is good, and whose Chapter dues are paid, if suspended by a Blue Lodge for non-payment of dues, is thereby suspended from Royal Arch Masonry, so soon as his Chapter receives authentic information of his suspension. Article 7 of the Permanent Rules and Regulations makes no exception in favor of those whose suspension is for non-payment of dues.

I had occasion twice to decide that the rule that "an individual without the use of hands, arms or feet, is not capable of being instructed in the degree of Royal Arch Mason," having been stricken from the Permanent Rules and Regulations, by the vote of the Grand Chapter in 1867 (Proceedings p. 14), the Chapters have the authority of the Grand Chapter for advancing maimed brothers who are deemed otherwise worthy and well qualified. As to the propriety of conferring the degree in such cases I expressed a doubt, in my first letter on this subject. My opinion, however, has gradually undergone a change. We should be careful to prevent those who are physically disqualified from being made Masons; but when they become our brothers we should not let a subsequent misfortune debar them from any Masonic privilege or promotion.

We do not think the "gradual change" which has taken place in the Grand High Priest's opinion is a judicious one, or that the Grand Chapter acted wisely in striking from its permanent rules the provision that "*an individual without the use of hands, arms or feet, is not capable of being instructed in the degree of Royal Arch Mason.*" We should very much like to witness the ceremony of making a Royal Arch Mason of one who was minus these useful members; the idea is simply absurd; a man who, having been initiated an Entered Apprentice Mason, becomes maimed before he is advanced, may have some claims upon the Lodge to be made a Master Mason, but he can have none whatever upon the Chapter, and we believe in exalting none to the dignity of a Royal Arch Mason, who cannot do all that is required of a Royal Arch Mason to perform.

A Chapter having elected a candidate against whom charges were subsequently preferred in his Lodge, for unmasonic conduct, of which he was guilty (if at all) before his election in the Chapter, but without the knowledge of the Chapter, I decided that the Chapter should postpone conferring the degrees until his conduct should be investigated by his Lodge. And that, whatever the result of that investigation, if any member of the Chapter should still object to his advancement, the degrees should be withheld from him.

In reply to an inquiry, I decided that the High Priest, King or Scribe, with the assistance of eight other companions, of his own or other Chapters, may do all general work—that is, work pertaining to Capitular Masonry in general. For example, they may open, confer degrees already ballotted for, and close. But visitors cannot transact any business which is special to the Chapter; such, for example, as the increase or diminution of its membership, the exercise of discipline, or the disposition of the Chapter funds. Such business requires the presence of nine members of the Chapter; and an election for the degrees, when less than nine members are present, is, in my judgment, irregular and illegal.

We concur.

Application having been made for the Capitular degrees, and it appearing that a member of the Chapter had a difficulty with the candidate, the usual committee reported that they had arranged the difficulty, and the candidate was elected. Subsequently the objection was renewed. I was asked: "Is his objection valid? If not, please send a dispensation to confer the degrees on the brother." I decided that it is not competent to the Grand High Priest to grant a dispensation to confer the Capitular degrees over the objection of a member of the Chapter.

Sound.

I also decided that under the by-law which provides that when members neglect or refuse to pay dues for twelve months, they shall stand suspended without action on the part of the Chapter; the neglect of the Secretary to make a record of the suspension does not prevent the operation of the law, but the delinquent is under suspension.

We are sorry to observe that in the treasury of our sister it is dead low water, but, as "there is a tide in the affairs of men," so is there in those of Grand Chapters, and we hope our companions will speedily be enabled to take it at the flood and replenish their depleted coffers. We were slightly surprised, however, that the Grand Chapter, being somewhat in the condition of the man who had five outs to one in, that is to say,

Out of money and out of clothes,
Out at the heels and out at the toes,
Out of credit, and
In debt,

Should have adopted the following resolution offered by Comp. J. L. POWER :

Whereas, Article VI of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, fixes the per diem of representatives at three dollars; and the Grand Chapter, having adopted the report of the Finance Committee, providing four dollars per diem for this Grand Convocation; therefore

Resolved, That in addition to the constitutional allowance of per diem, each representative at this Grand Convocation shall be allowed the additional sum of one dollar per day.

We presume it is all right, as long as they have the *Power* to pull through their financial difficulties.

The Committee on Masonic Law submitted the following report, which was received and adopted :

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of Mississippi :

The Committee on Masonic Law and Jurisprudence, having had under consideration that portion of the M.: E.: Grand High Priest's Address as relates to ALLEN BRIDGES, recommend that, by consent of this Grand Chapter, the Chapter in Louisiana, in whose jurisdiction he resides, has the consent of this Grand Chapter to heal said ALLEN BRIDGES, and, if found worthy, receive him as a member. And we would further report, that all other Royal Arch Masons made by *Paulding* Chapter, No. 26, while in a state of suspension, be held and received as members by Chapters in whose jurisdiction they may reside.

Your Committee further recommend that Comp. J. S. HOLLOWAY, of *Huntsville* Chapter, No. 91, who had his leg broke, and failed to meet the Grand Chapter in 1870, be allowed mileage and per diem, as though he was present.

Your Committee are further of opinion, that no Chapter can be opened or closed unless there be present nine Royal Arch Masons, nor can any Chapter elect officers or ballot for candidates unless there be a like number who shall be members of said Chapter, and that no Chapter can be opened unless one of the three principal officers are present.

Your Committee are of opinion that the existing laws on the subject of physical disabilities seem to be ample to govern the Subordinate Chapters, and they do not deem it incumbent on them to recommend any change. In regard to the point raised by the M.: E.: Grand High Priest in his Address, in regard to a Master Mason becoming maimed after he became such, your Committee recommend that the existing laws shall govern the Chapters.

On the subject of printed or written rituals, or the use of keys or "nemonics," referred to by the M.: E.: Grand High Priest, your Committee cordially concur in the views expressed by him in his Address, and they cannot condemn in too strong language the use of all written matter, which has been prohibited from time immemorial, in the ritualistic part of the degrees, always excepting such as is monitorial.

Your Committee have considered the question of continuing a regular meeting of the Subordinate Chapters beyond the day of meeting, and they are of opinion that if the business coming before the Chapter is not completed the first day, it may continue in session from day to day until the regular business is disposed of, and may call from labor to refreshment, or close each day. Your Committee would advise the Chapters to act on all petitions, and ballot on them the first day of meeting, as this practice will perhaps secure a more full attendance than on any other day.

Your Committee recommend that in the Permanent Rules and Regulations, section 34, page 157, Proceedings of 1869, all after the words "said court," in the fourth line, be stricken out.

The following questions have been submitted to your Committee :

What is the status of a member of a Chapter who demits from a Lodge and continues non-affiliated?

Has a Chapter the right to compel a member to join a Blue Lodge?

In answer to the first question :

Your Committee are of opinion that the Chapter has no jurisdiction over his relation to the Lodge. He is amenable to the Chapter for unmasonic conduct.

2. The Chapter has no right to compel to join a Blue Lodge.

Your Committee regret that they have been compelled to decide on the questions submitted to them, so hastily, and respectfully suggest that if this report is agreed to, they propose to correct and remodel the points herein presented, and embrace them in a report to the next Annual Grand Convocation.

We must express our unqualified dissent from the theory advanced by the Committee, that a subordinate Chapter may continue a stated meeting from day to day. Such a practice is open to numberless abuses, and we venture to predict that one year's experience under this rule will be sufficient to convince the Committee that they were in error in recommending it.

We do not know what the local regulations of Mississippi may be with reference to Royal Arch Masons holding their membership in the Lodge, but we believe every member of a Chapter should also be a member of some Lodge; it is in the Lodge where most of the real work of Masonry is done, and there the great majority of the active charities of the Order are dispensed, and he who shirks his duties in the Lodge, who declines to contribute to its charities, and wraps himself up in the dignity of the *so-called* higher degrees, is unworthy the name of Mason, and deserves to be thrown among the rubbish. In California, we require every member of a Chapter to be a member of some Lodge, or at least to contribute to some Lodge an amount equivalent to the monthly dues.

The following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter appropriate and pay to Comp. W. S. PATTON the sum of one hundred dollars, in consideration of the services rendered as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Money well earned and well applied.

A resolution was adopted making the Convocations of the Grand Chapter biennial, instead of annual, but requiring the subordinates to make annual returns and pay dues as heretofore.

Comp. POWER invents the following scheme to "raise the wind," which was adopted :

Resolved, That Subordinate Chapters be required to pay to the Grand Chapter, on account of each member re-instated, the sum of one dollar for each year of suspension for non-payment of dues.

Comp. WM. S. PATTON sets before us a dainty dish in his Report on Correspondence, in which are served up the transactions of thirty-three Grand Chapters, done to a turn, and seasoned to our liking.

California, for 1870, receives a brief, but fraternal notice. He says :

The Address of the Grand High Priest is short, not exceeding one page ; simply giving an account of official doings during the year, suitable to that jurisdiction. The reports of the Grand Secretary and Treasurer show the amount received and disbursed to be \$4,776 17. The Report on Foreign Correspondence is by Companion LAURENCE C. OLIVER. He makes copious extracts from the Address of Grand High Priest J. O. LUSHER—which the priest makes him say *J. O. Gusher*. Now do, Companion Oliver, correct that name ; place an L in the place of that G. Lusher is bad enough, but when you call our Past Grand High Priest "Gusher," we don't know—but we may be forced to tease our Past Grand High Priest.

We respectfully suggest to Comp. PATTON the propriety of plucking the beam out of his own eye before he "goes for" the mote in his neighbor's. Our predecessor made a mistake in but one letter of a name (and Oh! Phœbus, what a name ; we think he rather improved on it,) while he is at fault in five. He calls our late Grand Secretary and Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, "LAURENCE C. OLIVER." It should be LAWRENCE C. OWEN, Comp. PATTON, and, as you have spelled it correctly in two places, we are constrained to believe that previous to writing that paragraph you had looked so long through one of *Corson's microscopes* that your vision was *Oliver* skew.

We're not *Owen* you anything now, are we ?

He goes after Comp. CORSON, of New Jersey, with a warm application. Hear him :

It is true, as Comp. CORSON said, the report is in fine print ; but how *miserable* the print or report is, we leave our fellow-reporters to say. None, we believe, have complained of the miserable print, except Companion CORSON. Yes, Companion DRUMMOND, of Maine, made complaint that it was scarcely readable after dark, to which we replied, that Comp. DRUMMOND, perhaps, had a right to complain. Being old and well stricken in years, it is natural to suppose his vision would become impaired ; and, further, the State of Maine is situated so far towards sunrise, that it frequently occurs that the sun does not rise until a late hour in the day, and if the weather is a little frosty, the sun has to be prised up with a crow bar to assist in reading fine print from the far off Mississippi.

Now we know Companion CORSON is all *right side up*. But that miserable small print is what seems to trouble him, if we take his word, which we are bound to do. But suffer me to make a suggestion about that "microscope," which, he says, "is out of order." From what I can learn of Comp. CORSON's microscope, it is only about four inches in length by two and a half in diameter, made entirely of glass, one end closed by a glass cylinder head, the other open so as to admit of a certain fluid. The instrument is charged with about three *fingers* of the fluid, then held up before the face, some three inches below the eye, and instead of looking, (as in other microscopes) the eye is elevated above the cylinder end of the instrument, which is pointing from the person using it, is gradually turned up until the fluid gradually disappears, which generally brightens the eye-sight, loosens the tongue for a short time, then the eyes gradually become dim, so as not to be able to read fine print, especially after night-fall, the tongue becomes thick and heavy, refusing to perform its office, and if the microscope cannot be replenished, the individual using it will become overpowered, his eyes gradually close, and he becomes almost unconscious of the surrounding objects, and when he arouses as from a deep slumber, every object to him looks doubled and twisted into such shape that it is almost impossible to read "miserable small print."

Now, Companions, don't understand that we would in the least intimate that it had such an effect on our worthy Companion CORSON; not at all. He is a doctor, and chemist, and we know chemists always have an antidote to prevent certain causes and effects; and we charge nothing wrong on the part of Companion CORSON, but that "microscope" being out of order is entirely to blame.

The *M. E.* CHAS. T. BOND was elected Grand High Priest; the *R. E.* J. L. POWER was elected Grand Secretary.

MISSOURI.

The Grand Chapter of Missouri held its twenty-sixth Annual Convocation in the city of Saint Louis, commencing on the fifth day of October, 1871—the *M. E.* JOSEPH M. FOX, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* GEORGE FRANK GOULEY being Grand Secretary. Forty-seven chartered Chapters and three under dispensation were represented at the opening, seventy being borne upon the registry.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is brief, and entirely devoted to local affairs. The following we commend to the consideration of Comp. PEARSON, of Minnesota, it being one of the "certain circumstances" under which a High Priest may with propriety resign:—

In February last I received a petition signed by nearly all the members of *Boonville* Chapter, stating that the High Priest of that Chapter had moved out of its jurisdiction, and asking for a special dispensation to elect another in his stead. Dispensation granted. I also granted a dispensation to *Hannibal* Chapter to elect a Treasurer, the office having become vacant by the death of the companion who had been elected to fill it.

Three dispensations were issued for the formation of new Chapters. He announces the death of Comp. JOHN F. HOUSTON, Past Grand Master and Past Grand High Priest, Comp. ROBERT L. FISHER, Grand Royal Arch Captain, and Comp. P. M. PINCKARD, Past Grand Chaplain, and pays a feeling tribute to their memory.

He thus records his disappointment at the retention of the Past Master's degree by the General Grand Chapter:—

I attended the late triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, held in the city of Baltimore, and in accordance with the instructions of our last Grand Chapter, cast the vote of Missouri for the amendment proposing to eliminate the Past Master's from the Capitular degrees. I regret to say, however, that the amendment failed in its passage, and the Past Master's degree remains in the Capitular rite. The position taken by the Grand Chapter of Missouri upon this question was well sustained in an able and exhaustive argument made by Comp. GOULEY before the General Grand Chapter.

He closes with the following violent presumption:—

Companions: Fully impressed with the belief that you, the representatives of the subordinate Chapters of this Grand jurisdiction, thoroughly understand and appreciate the governing principles of our noble institution; that you are familiar with the landmarks of our Order; that you recognize the importance and solemnity of your duties and obligations as Royal Arch Masons, and that you need no reminder of the responsibilities attaching to you as members of the great brotherhood, I deem it neither well nor proper, upon this occasion, to deliver you a lengthy, or even a brief,

discourse upon the subject of Masonry, its origin, its mission, its purposes, or its lessons. I have contented myself, therefore, with the laying before you, as succinctly as possible, my official acts, and express the hope that you may be satisfied with them.

A proposition to change the time of holding the Annual Convocation from October to May of each year, was defeated by a vote of ninety-five to eighty.

The Committee on Chapters and Dispensations, in their report, counsel the High Priests, as follows:—

We earnestly urge High Priests to give more attention to law and usage, and they will not find on their records such singular minutes as a petition for the degrees "indefinitely postponed," or action "deferred at the request of the petitioner."

The Committee to whom was referred the Address of the Grand High Priest, report:—

That we do fully indorse the action of the Grand High Priest in renewing the dispensation of *Adoniram* Chapter, and in his action toward *Boonville* Chapter, under the "peculiar circumstances," although your committee are of the opinion that the right to grant a dispensation to elect a High Priest in a chartered Chapter which has a King or Scribe is questionable.

The above we also refer to Comp. PIERSON as a "stand off."

We are delighted to notice a manifest "growth in grace" on the part of our companions in Missouri, as evidenced by the following paragraph in the report of the same committee. There is some hope for Missouri yet—

"For while the lamp holds out to burn,
The vilest sinner may return."

We take great pleasure in observing that for many years past this is the first in which the Grand Head of the Order in this State has not had occasion to allude to profanity and intemperance, and we are happy to believe that these vices do not now offend the good and true.

The Past Master's degree appears to be the *bete noir* of this Grand Chapter. The committee close their report with the following lament:—

We are deeply grateful to the representatives to the triennial convention for the faithful discharge of their duties, and regret that that convention could not be convinced of the propriety of dropping the Past Master's degree from Capitular Masonry.

The Committee on Grievances report, *nothing to do*. "Behold how good," etc.

The Report on Correspondence is again submitted by Comp. GEO. FRANK GOULEY, and is fully up to his usual standard of excellence. He reviews the transactions of thirty-four Grand Chapters, California receiving fraternal notice. In reviewing the transactions of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, he alludes to Comp. MASON's advocacy of army Lodges and Chapters, and hits back thus:—

Comp. MASON must have been a surgeon in the army, for he uses his pen with about as much recklessness as such a surgeon would use the knife in cutting off legs while bullets were cutting off his own ears. He should be more calm and quiet in his nerves, else he will be paralyzed while writing reports, and he should recollect that we want no deaths in "our society." To the point. He pitches into Missouri as though a Grand Chapter or Grand Lodge cared one row of pins about patriotism in making their laws. They can know but one duty, and that is to attend to their own business; part of which is to squelch out all interlopers, and those who interfere with their jurisdictions, and that is just what our State bodies have done under this law, and intend to stick to it.

Under the head of Kansas, alluding to the Address of the Grand High Priest, he says:—

He decides that a Chapter U. D. is an inchoate body. It is simply an assemblage of Masons exercising the functions of a Chapter, so far as necessary, for the advancement of Master Masons to the Royal Arch degree, but having no other power or authority whatever. * * * Membership therein is unknown; none can affiliate with it; it is organized solely for the purpose of giving the petitioner an opportunity to show to the Grand Chapter their ability to labor, etc.

We hope the time may come, but sometimes fear it never will, when some of Comp. A. G. MACKEY's innovations will cease to be law. We have as high appreciation of his works as any one can have; but that it is not perfect all must allow, and we know of no greater fallacy ever put afloat than this, viz: that a Lodge or Chapter is merely an "inchoate body."

If they are merely inchoate, so must be the candidates they turn out; in other words, they are Masonic eggs to be hatched out by a full grown Chapter. The conclusion that Comp. BASSETT comes to is a natural one, by logical deduction from the false premise, viz: that a Chapter U. D. is merely a cryptic playhouse, where children gather together with stray China just to practice on before they grow up, and a pretty mess of tea they wind up with when they realize that they are merely children, and are not responsible for broken dishes. Come Comp. B., let us look this case squarely in the face, like able-bodied men, and grasp the issue as it stands. You issue a dispensation for a Chapter, and to do what? To make Royal Arch Masons! You issue it not for yourself as Grand High Priest, but, as Grand High Priest, you issue it in the name, and by the authority, of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Kansas; clothed and covered by the panoply of that body to do the very highest act that any Chapter can do, viz: to make a Master Mason a Royal Arch Mason, the equal of every Royal Arch Mason in the world.

To say that those who compose it are not members of it, but merely a lot of companions assembled in another room to experiment on candidates whom, having exalted, are not members also, is to say that a Chapter U. D. is nothing more nor less than a meeting in an ante-room performing a Royal Arch farce, and we deny the power of the Grand High Priest to be a party to it by issuing a mere letter of dispensation.

We hold that a Chapter U. D. is a regularly organized body composed of its constituent members, and those who are made therein become members, and when they dimit, and travel abroad, they can conscientiously say they hail from a regular Chapter with authority and power to work, etc.

We do not care whether a Grand Chapter orders the petitioners for a new one to get their dimit or not, but we think it the better plan, as it forces them, like Cortes, to burn their ships behind them, and to enter upon their new field with earnestness and zeal, and compels them to build up their new home as though they intended to live in it, and not to dodge out of it when they see that it is not being fixed just to suit their personal whims. This has been the practice in Missouri, and it works like a charm.

We concur in every word of the above. The idea that a Chapter under dispensation is simply an inchoate body, is an exploded one, in California at least. Again he goes for the Kansas Grand High Priest, and gets in the following good one, which exactly expresses our sentiments:—

In speaking of Royal Arch Masons appearing as such at funerals, he says:—

“Four separate and distinct organizations are recognized in connection with York Masonry; the lowest, or Lodge, and the highest, or Commandery, has each a burial service; the other two, the Chapter and Council, have none. Now, if the highest and lowest grades may appear in procession, I see no reason or argument which would deprive the two intermediate organizations from enjoying the same privileges. No Royal Arch Mason should appear distinctively as such in a funeral procession, unless the deceased had advanced to that degree, and, in that case, as the Chapter has no burial service in this jurisdiction, whenever the companions, as such, are not excluded from the Lodge procession, it is better to appear in the place assigned by the Grand Lodge.”

The portion of the above which we demur to, is the use of terms “highest” and “lowest.” We hold there is no such thing as the Lodge being the “lowest,”—it is the first and last of ancient Craft Masonry—upon it everything stands or falls. It is by the mere sufferance of the Lodge that a member of any of the other degrees may be called a Mason.

When we hear the term “higher” or “lower” degrees it hurts our feelings; we feel like when seeing a man travel from the home of his mother and meet other ladies, talk about higher and lower mothers—a man can have but one mother—he may marry a wife, or several of them, or he may fall in love with many beautiful young ladies, more beautiful to his young eye than his mother, and so a Mason can be but a Mason—he may travel further and marry other degrees, whose authors, in admiration for the mother, have called them Masonic, or he may fall in love with other more showy degrees, but they are not “higher,” and it is improper to call the mother Lodge “lower.” The phrase “higher degrees” is a misnomer, borrowed from the hybrid degrees of modern French origin, and, like almost everything else French, it is revolutionary of settled principles.

We would like to quote many more good things from this report, but we are admonished by the stack of Masonic literature remaining upon our table that we have much yet to do, and time presses.

The M. E. JOSEPH M. FOX was reelected Grand High Priest, and the R. E. GEORGE FRANK GOULEY was reelected Grand Secretary.

NEBRASKA.

The Grand Chapter of Nebraska held its Fifth Annual Convocation in the city of Lincoln, commencing on the twentieth day of June, 1871, the *M. E.* E. A. ALLEN, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* ROBERT W. FURNASS being Grand Secretary. Six subordinates were represented.

The Grand High Priest, in his Address, alludes to his visit to our occidental shores in the following highly complimentary terms :—

During last winter it was my privilege to visit the golden shores of the Pacific ; resting and refreshing myself a goodly time in the picturesque city of San Francisco, in the shadow of its imposing Masonic Temple, which stands in all its grandeur and surpassing excellence as an enduring monument of the zeal and fidelity of those who designed and caused its construction. I made numerous acquaintances, recollections of which can never be erased from my memory. Being a stranger upon arrival, how forcibly was I reminded of that all powerful bond of Union, Love and Affection which ever exists among companions of our Order, from the Orient to the Occident. 'Tis enough to know that having been crowned with "Holiness to the Lord," they are engaged in the same laudable undertaking.

I visited *California* Chapter No. 5, a number of times, where, as an officer of this Grand Chapter, you were honored by my being received with all the honors due my rank. Every attention, courtesy and hospitality in their power to bestow, was not only freely tendered, but urged upon me. I had the pleasure of inspecting all of their work in capitular Masonry, and declare it par-excellent. Indeed I have never witnessed the conferring of the Chapter degrees in a more skillful and impressive manner, and the privileged visitor is enlivened anew with that spirit of noble contention, or rather emulation, (so truly a commendable Masonic virtue,) of who can best work and best agree.

We can assure Comp. ALLEN that we are delighted to know that he enjoyed himself among us ; and should he again drift this way, he will find the latch string out and the "gates ajar." If it will be any satisfaction to him, we can assure him that Old Grimes is not yet dead, the poet to the contrary notwithstanding ; he still lives and declares himself ready to tackle an "*east wind from the west*," or any other quarter. We felt some hesitation in quoting the above flattering remarks of Comp. ALLEN, for the members of *California* Chapter were sufficiently vain before, but hereafter we shall not be able to touch them with a forty-foot pole ; but in order that—as we have begun—we may feed their vanity to repletion, we will place before them the report of the Committee to whom that portion of the Grand High Priest's Address was referred, which report was unanimously concurred in, and is as follows :—

To the Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Nebraska :—

Your Committee, to whom was referred that portion of the Annual Address of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest relating to his visit to the Pacific coast, having had the same under consideration, would most respectfully submit the following :—

Resolved, That we recognize in the most flattering reception and generous hospitality extended to our Most Excellent Grand high Priest, E. A. ALLEN, of this Grand Chapter, by the Royal Arch Chapters of the State of California, and more particularly *California* Chapter No. 5, during his visit to the Pacific Coast, as indicative of the most friendly con-fraternity on the part of our sister Chapters, and remindful of that all powerful bond of Union, Love and Affection which should ever exist among Companions of our Order.

Resolved, That we most heartily welcome this exhibition of fraternal affection on the part of the Chapters of the State of California, and will ever hold ourselves in readiness to return the honor and courtesy thus conferred upon this Grand Body, should opportunity offer, and would most respectfully extend a cordial invitation to our companions of the Royal Arch Chapters of California to visit the Chapters of this State at any and all times that convenience may dictate, guaranteeing to show them every attention, courtesy and hospitality in our power to bestow.

By the Committee,

J. W. MOORE, Chairman.

The Grand High Priest announced the following decisions :—

In February last our very worthy Comp. J. W. MOORE, High Priest of *Keystone* Chapter, submitted to me the following :—

"A Master Mason in this jurisdiction applies for the degrees in *Keystone* Chapter and is rejected ; afterward he removed out of our jurisdiction, and sends his petition for our recommendation to ——— Chapter for the degrees. Question :

"1st. Will this petition for recommendation have to lay over the usual thirty days, or may we pass upon it instantly?"

"2nd. Must the ballot be by a three-fourths vote, or entirely in the affirmative?"

"In the absence of a By-Law, or legislation by the Grand Chapter of this State, I am at a loss to know what to do in the premises. Your answer will be anxiously looked for by our Chapter."

The following were my decisions thereupon and some of the reasons therefor:

"1st. The petition must lie over the usual thirty days, or one lunar month.

"2nd. The ballot must be unanimous in his favor in order to recommend him.

The petition should lie over from one stated meeting to another to give such as had previously voted to reject the applicant, as well as all other members, due notice, and an opportunity to be present when action is taken thereon.

The ballot should be unanimous, else you might be placed in the peculiar position of having rejected a candidate as unfit to belong to your Chapter, but recommending him as good enough for the Chapter to which he is now applying.

The Report on Correspondence was prepared by Comp. R. W. FURNASS, Grand Secretary, in which he briefly reviews the transactions of thirty-six Grand Chapters, our own among the number. The Committee offer "want of time," as an apology for the brevity of their Report.

Six Chapters are borne upon the roll, with an aggregate membership of three hundred and fifty-nine. The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were both reelected.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The Grand Chapter of New Hampshire held its fifty-third Annual Convocation in the city of Concord, commencing on the 16th day of May, 1871, the M. E. JOHN A. HARRIS, Grand High Priest, presiding, the R. E. JOSEPH W. HILDRETH acting as Grand Secretary. Thirteen subordinates were represented at the opening. The Grand High Priest, in his Address, gives a glowing picture of the peace and prosperity which prevails among the Royal Craft in that jurisdiction. He says: "So carefully were the foundations of the Royal Arch Bodies of New Hampshire laid at their origin, so cautious and discreet has been the course of the several Chapters, that during the long period of sixty-four years, the time which has elapsed since Chapters were first organized in this State, dissensions have been unknown."

It is worthy of note that the four Chapters which formed, in the year 1819, the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire (*St. Andrew's*, established in 1807, *Trinity*, in 1807, *Washington*, in 1815, and *Cheshire*, in 1816), are represented in this Grand Convocation. Two of these Chapters, *Trinity* and *Washington*, have existed from their formation to the present hour. The other two ceased for a time to hold their meetings, and surrendered their charters; but Masonry lived among their scattered members, and, having been reorganized, *St. Andrew's* and *Cheshire* are now in a flourishing condition.

We have present on this occasion companions who, for many years, have been members of this body, one of them, Comp. HARRISON G. HARRIS, having been present at its formation.

He notices, in fitting terms, the death of Comps. JOHN KNOWLTON, Past Grand High Priest, and HOSEA FESSENDEN, Past Deputy Grand High Priest, giving a brief history of their Masonic career.

We are pleased to learn that after the lapse of *sixty-four years*, a place has at last been provided for the safe-keeping of the records and papers of the Grand Chapter. His loyalty to the General Grand Chapter is evidenced by the following sensible language, and the result of the last Triennial Convocation of that distinguished Grand Body has verified his predictions:—

The Grand Chapter of New Hampshire has been from its formation a member of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and has generally been represented in the Triennial Convocations of that body. I have no fear that this Grand Chapter will ever, unless compelled so to do to preserve the ancient landmarks of Masonry, sever its connection with the General Grand Body, with which it has been in accord for half a century,—a body capable of wielding in the future an influence at home and in foreign lands far more important, proud as is its history, than it has possessed in the past.

It is highly important that opportunity be afforded for intercourse between the several Grand Chapters—for harmonizing differences that may exist—for adjusting

questions which may arise—for cultivating and maintaining friendship and intimacy among the Royal Arch Masons of the various portions of our country ; and in no other way can these desirable ends be obtained so readily, if at all, as by means of the General Grand Chapter.

I have confidence that the General Grand Chapter will be perpetuated, and that it will retain its high position as one of the most influential and important organizations on the globe. I trust such course will be taken as to remove all fears on the part of each and every State Grand Chapter that its powers are ever to be interfered with or any innovations to be made, and that the true Masonic spirit may succeed in bringing into harmonious union as a General Body all of the Grand Chapters within the United States.

The report of the Grand Treasurer shows a balance in the Treasury of \$825.52.

The following amendment to the Regulations was adopted :

No dispensation shall hereafter be granted to confer the degrees within the gift of Subordinate Chapters in less time than is provided in the Grand Regulations.

. It would be better for the Fraternity were such a regulation universal.

The Report on Correspondence was presented by Comp. JOSEPH W. FELLOWS, in which he briefly reviews the transactions of thirty-eight Grand Chapters, California, for 1870, being fraternally noticed.

Very little business of general interest was transacted ; the Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were both reelected.

NEW JERSEY.

The Grand Chapter of New Jersey held its fifteenth Annual Convocation in the city of Trenton, commencing on the thirteenth day of September, 1871, the *M. : E. :* M. HIGGINBOTHAM, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. : E. :* JOHN WOOLVERTON being Grand Secretary. The Grand High Priest, in his Address, gives a most satisfactory account of the condition of the Order in that jurisdiction. He says :

Our prosperity during the past few years has been great, far exceeding the expectations of the most sanguine among those firm, zealous companions who, with never wavering adherence to the great plan of usefulness which they had laid out, through good report and evil report, and in the face of difficulty and opposition that would have deterred men of less firm purpose, first established the Grand Chapter of New Jersey.

It will, perhaps, surprise many of you to learn that during the past three years the number of Royal Arch Masons in this jurisdiction has almost doubled, and reports of progress, prosperity and stability still continue to greet us from all parts of the State.

In the year 1864, there were reported to this Grand Body thirteen subordinate Chapters, with an aggregate membership of 624. In 1868 we had reported twenty-one Chapters and 1183 members. The present year we have twenty-six subordinates, while the number of members to be reported at this meeting will probably reach 2200.

We fully agree with him in the following conclusion :

The mere facts of our numerical strength, and the rapidity with which we attained our present growth, would not of themselves be indicative of prosperity, but might, on the contrary, prove a source of weakness, for we all know that without a unity of purpose, without a desire to promote each other's welfare and happiness equally with our own, without a firm and zealous purpose to preserve the pure teachings of Masonry intact—in a word, unless we are actuated by a true Masonic spirit no prosperity can possibly exist, and all the efforts we put forth to advance the interests of our Fraternity are vain, and will only result in our own discomfiture.

A rapid accession of numerical strength is by no means indicative of a state of actual prosperity.

Many an imposing structure has crumbled and fallen, through the introduction of weak and worthless material, and it is far better that we should erect our edifice by slow degrees, trying each stone by square, plumb and level, than that, in our haste to increase its proportions, its excellence should be impaired by the careless introduction of defective ashlar, such as the zealous and careful workman would at once reject. But our companions of New Jersey, notwithstanding they have advanced with such rapid strides, appear to have exercised a judicious care in the selection

of the material which they have incorporated into the temple, believing, doubtless, that

"Only a sweet and virtuous soul,
Like seasoned timber, never gives,"

For the Grand High Priest further says: "But a glance at the material composing a large majority of our Chapters, and the harmony existing between these Bodies, will convince us that we contain within ourselves all the elements of success, and that we have only to continue to pursue our duty earnestly and steadfastly in order to gain the respect of all."

He reports the appointment of Representatives near the Grand Chapters of Minnesota and Tennessee, and of the representative system he says:

This system of representation between the Grand Bodies meets with my strongest approval. Much can be done by the judicious selection of representatives in cultivating that fraternal cordiality and Masonic courtesy which should characterize the relation between Grand Chapters. And by such a system, questions of controversy, which are constantly arising between contiguous jurisdictions, can be more readily set at rest and a harmonious understanding arrived at.

We concur.

Two Dispensations were issued to form new Chapters, and one other was issued, but revoked, because no suitable place of meeting had been provided.

The following we commend to our companions of Mississippi, and recommend them to profit by so good an example:

My attention was called to a most irregular practice obtaining in two of our Chapters—that of calling off to refreshment from one Convocation to another. Thus it sometimes happened that the Chapter was not opened regularly more than two or three times during the year. I at once caused the notice of the companions to be directed to the subject, and informed the offending Chapters that the practice must be discontinued, and that the Chapters must be regularly closed at the termination of each Convocation.

His loyalty to the General Grand Chapter is manifested in the following clause:

Learning that a High Priest of a Chapter had purposely omitted to administer the obligation found in the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, under the head of "Miscellaneous," and contained in Section 2 of the before-mentioned Constitution, at the time he installed his successor in office, I declared the installation irregular, and directed that the officers elect should be assembled in open Chapter, at the next regular meeting, and there obligated to support and maintain the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of New Jersey, and that of the General Grand Chapter of the United States.

A request for a Dispensation authorizing a ballot to be taken on the application of a candidate at the same meeting on which it was received, was very properly refused.

He reports the following decisions:

1. At every annual installation of a subordinate Chapter, the officers elect should be obligated to support and maintain the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of the State of New Jersey, and also that of the General Grand Chapter of the United States.
2. In determining the territorial jurisdiction of a Chapter, the distance should be taken from the boundary line of the city, town or village named in its warrant, by the nearest highway.
3. A Chapter cannot suspend the operation of a By-Law.

We notice with pleasure that the Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King and Grand Scribe are considered as something more than mere ornamental appendages; they are put in harness and caused to render themselves useful by visiting the subordinate Chapters, and observing their work and general condition, giving instruction where necessary, and rendering an account of their stewardship at the Annual Convocation.

This is as should be; nothing tends more to create efficiency in Masonic Bodies than frequent visits by Grand Officers, and we hope the plan adopted by New Jersey, of giving the Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King and Grand Scribe, each a portion of the Chapters to inspect, will find favor in our own jurisdiction.

The following preamble and resolution were adopted:—

WHEREAS, a resolution is pending before the *M. E.* General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States to abrogate or strike out from the Ritual of Royal Arch Masonry the degree known as that of Past Master ; AND, WHEREAS, notice having been given by the General Grand Secretary that said resolution will come before the General Grand Chapter at the next Triennial Convocation, to be held in Baltimore during the present month ; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Representatives of the Grand Chapter of New Jersey be instructed to vote against the adoption of the resolution above referred to.

The General Grand Chapter, having confidence in the wisdom of our New Jersey companions, took due notice and governed themselves accordingly. Comps. T. J. CORSON, J. WOOLVERTON and W. W. GOODWIN were appointed a committee to prepare a history of Royal Arch Masonry in the State of New Jersey, to report at the next Annual Convocation.

We look forward with pleasant anticipations to the perusal of that history, and we entertain no doubt that the "feast of reason" in prospective will be an enjoyable one, provided the chairman of the Committee is not brought to an unusual extent under the influence of *microscopic* observations.

The Report on Correspondence was again presented by Comp. THOMAS J. CORSON, and is written in his usual jocular and racy style.

He reviews the transactions of thirty-six Grand Chapters, and mourns because he could not get the thirty-seventh. He sails in on the principle which governed the Irishman at Donnybrook fair, "wherever you see a head, hit it," and is utterly reckless of his own caput, so long as he can get a crack at his neighbor's. He does it, however, in such a spirit of hearty good humor, that, albeit he sometimes hits hard, we feel inclined to forgive him and get even as best we can. We believe that, notwithstanding his squibs and jokes, his heart is in the right place, and filled with the milk of human kindness, though it may sometimes get a little sour, perhaps. After wading through page after page of dry statistics and sombre resolutions, CORSON'S report comes like a ray of sunshine, an oasis in the literary desert, and we feel ourselves fully capable of enjoying it, for

"Gentle dullness ever loves a joke,"

And if he jokes us upon this, our first attempt at inditing a Report on Correspondence, if the joke isn't a *coarse un!* we shall take it in good part, and do our best to repay him in kind.

California, for 1871, receives fraternal notice at his hands, and thus he introduces us to our companions:

From the distant Pactolian shores, where the

"Sunny fountains
Roll down the golden sand,"

From the land where the "heathen Chinees" so richly adorns and embellishes society come the welcome proceedings of the Seventeenth Annual Convocation, which was held in April, 1871, and at which twenty-nine Chapters were represented.

If Comp. CORSON will read the California journals, he will find that the "heathen Chinees" not only embellishes society, but occasionally a lamp post as well. We have a summary method of dealing with these Pagan barbarians in this civilized, enlightened and Christian (?) land.

He commends the pious expressions with which our Grand High Priest commences his Address, and says:

We agree with this—we endorse every word—we believe that Comp. GRIMES felt what he said, and we know that every Mason should so feel, although a prominent Mason of the District of Columbia designates such expressions as "whining cant."

He also agrees with the views of our Grand High Priest on the Representative question, and alludes to the Report of our predecessor in flattering terms.

He quotes the following portion of the Address of the Grand High Priest of Canada:

Since we last met, the Dominion has been threatened, I will not call it invaded, by another Fenian horde. They went back faster than they came, and let it be a fair subject of pride to us, that their earliest opponent is a *Freemason!* I allude to Bro.

Lieutenant-Colonel CHAMBERLAIN, who hurried to the defence of the frontier, and was so fortunate as to command the first of our brave fellows, who made the worthless scoundrels regularly bolt out of Canada! So also was our Most Worshipful Grand Master, Brother STEVENSON, one of the foremost, in proceeding with his battery, to meet the Fenian vagabonds, who had once more insulted the territory of our glorious and beloved Queen! And, companions, you will find Freemasons are ever ready to be in the van on such occasions—and so they ought—and they should remember their peculiar tie, and bear and forbear, and drive away discord, even as the Fenians were sent to the right about! I am sure that we all think alike.

Upon this, he gets in the following broadside, which will, we think, puzzle our Canadian companions to return successfully :

All honor and glory to Col. CHAMBERLAIN and Admiral STEVENSON, who, with their gallant army and navy, sent the Fenians "right about." We had thought that Uncle Sam had something to do in spanking these crazy sons of the Emerald Isle, and sending them to their homes; but, as usual, we were in error. We also had an indistinct recollection of having been accused by our Canadian companions of mixing politics with Masonry, because we, our individual self, expressed a hope, in an address to our Grand Chapter, that the United States Government might subdue a little disturbance which we had in this country a few years ago. But we must be mistaken in this also, for our Canadian companions certainly would not do that which they condemn as wrong and unmasonic in others.

A good hit, and well put in. Whose ox is gored now?

On the substitute question he quotes the following from the Address of the Grand High Priest of Delaware :—

"I would also call attention to the question of substitutes, which I find, from a review of the proceedings of other Grand Chapters, is agitating the Masonic mind in the various jurisdictions. The practice of using substitutes is as old, well nigh as Royal Arch Masonry itself. Without which practice I conceive the rural districts, at least, would oftentimes be placed in a sad dilemma. We can all of us here, I think, readily imagine the difficulty that would ensue in abandoning it. Indeed, it would, to my mind, be simply absurd to cherish such an idea. Our fathers established it—their wisdom is manifest, and let us, therefore, hold fast to that which we have proven to be good."

Which view of the matter he endorses thus :—

The Grand Chapter sustained the Grand High Priest in these views. We feel a very lively faith that this raid against the use of substitutes will soon cease. To our mind, the opposition to their use is unfounded in reason.

So mote it be.

We judge from Comp. CORSON's review of the transactions of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, that his organ of combativeness is well developed. He handles Comp. MASON without gloves, and, although we confess that the provocation was great, yet we can but feel that the retaliation was unduly severe. We regret exceedingly to see the feeling manifested by both parties, and hope we shall see it no more. Let fly your shafts of wit, companions, as much as you please, but do not, we beseech you, dip them in the poison of anger and malice.

We quote the following from the concluding portion of Comp. CORSON's admirable report :—

In our view, a Report on Correspondence should be an epitome of the proceedings reviewed—a condensation of all the good things therein contained—nor do we deem that courteously expressed opinion and friendly criticism are improper. Mental friction educes truth from the mazes of error and brings order out of chaos. Such a report, properly prepared, is a complete history of the actual condition of our institution, and as such, is of incalculable value to all who are interested in Freemasonry; and this is the only source from which the large majority of our members can gain such information, as the proceedings of our Grand Chapters are accessible to only a favored few.

As the mental characteristics of the writers differ, so must their reviews vary, one from the other. Yet all are most valuable. Some of these reporters (of which the undersigned has been accused of being one) will occasionally spice their performances and tint their pen-pictures with a little fun and levity, which does not detract from, but rather adds to the value of the document. A truth which is distasteful in itself, may be made almost palatable if clothed in pleasant language; just as "pills in apple-pies," or castor-oil in soda-water, are quite as efficacious as the raw material would be, while the nastiness of the stuff is so disguised by the vehicle in which

it is given that we hardly know that the dose has been swallowed until it begins to work, and then we "feel better as soon as it's done hurting." We have the authority of SHAKESPEARE that "care killed a cat," but who ever heard of a murder committed by fun?

With ourself mirth and jollity are necessary to our existence—they are inherent in our very nature—and yet we always endeavor to avoid coarseness and vulgarity. We are somewhat like the schoolboy who offended in this wise: The teacher directed the class to keep perfectly still—as "still as mice." While silence deep and profound reigned before the awful presence of the frowning pedagogue, a distinct "phew!" was heard, and JOHNNY WILLIAMS was at once recognized as the culprit. Upon being remonstrated with by the teacher for his disobedience, JOHNNY answered, "Indeed I didn't do it; something inside of me made the 'phew' come out." So it is with us; the "phew" is in us, and occasionally it will slip out, albeit we are generally as grave as a deacon at a funeral.

Some reporters hesitate about expressing an opinion upon any subject, as they seem to think that their Grand Chapter will be held responsible for any views expressed by them. But this is in no wise the case, except where the report is read in full before the Grand Body, and adopted by it, which it would be impossible to do, unless the review was so brief as to be worthless. We would suggest that hereafter the Grand Chapter should authorize the publication of the Report on Correspondence before the Annual Convocation, as is done by the Grand Lodge of our State, and by the Masonic Grand Bodies of several other jurisdictions. By this means the companions of the Grand Chapter could ascertain whether any action is necessary to be taken; whether its assent to or dissent from the views expressed in the document should be announced; or whether it should merely bear the paternity of its author. We invite the attention of the Grand Chapter to this subject.

The *M. E.* WM. H. JEFFERYS was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* JOHN WOOLVERTON was reelected Grand Secretary.

NEW YORK.

The Grand Chapter of New York held its seventy-fourth Annual Convocation in the city of Albany, commencing on the seventh day of February, 1871—the *M. E.* JOHN W. SIMONS, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* CHRISTOPHER G. FOX being Grand Secretary.

All the Grand Officers were present at the opening, and one hundred and sixty-one subordinate Chapters were represented, one hundred and seventy-nine being borne upon the roll.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is an able and comprehensive paper, and well repays the perusal. He reports that peace and harmony reign throughout the jurisdiction, and the degree of prosperity prevailing is represented as most satisfactory and encouraging. He reports that the angel of death has passed them by and left them to meet with unbroken ranks, to assemble around their altar with every link in the fraternal chain intact, and to take pleasant counsel together with no symbol of grief upon their banner. Truly they have reason to render grateful thanks to the Great I Am for His protecting care and loving kindness. He reports the issue of six dispensations to form new Chapters, and the refusal of two applications for the same for reasons which he deemed good and sufficient. He appointed representatives near ten sister Grand Chapters, and he pays an eloquent tribute to the memory of Companions EDMUND M. HASTINGS, of Alabama, and B. B. FRENCH, of the District of Columbia, who, to use his language, had, since their appointment, "passed the veils of this earthly tabernacle and presented the signet of truth in the Courts of the Infinite." He makes the following recommendation, which commends itself favorably to our judgment as being calculated to remedy a great evil:—

One of those things inseparable from legislative bodies in Masonry, appears to be the tendency to seek relief for any and all complications in proposed amendments to the Constitution, many of which fortunately never get passed their first reading. As there is no immediate likelihood that this tendency will cease, or even grow less, I am of opinion that it will be wise so to amend the Rules of Order as to provide for a Standing Committee on Constitution and By-Laws, to which shall be referred all proposed amendments to the Constitution, and on the report of which the Grand Chapter can more intelligently decide as to the propriety of considering proposed changes in the fundamental law.

He is earnest in his appeal to the Grand Chapter to sustain the General Grand Body, and uses sound arguments to strengthen his position. He says:—

During the present year the General Grand Chapter of the United States will hold its triennial Convocation at the city of Baltimore, and as one of its constituent members, this Grand Chapter will, of course, be adequately represented. Judging by the tone of the addresses and reports in the transactions of some of the Grand Chapters, there can be little doubt of a concerted intention to destroy the organization, and with it the unity and national character of Royal Arch Masonry. Some complain that the General Grand Chapter is arrogant, and seeking to deprive the State Grand Chapters of their individual rights and prerogatives, but they do not deem it essential to their argument to cite any instance in which the National Body has ever attempted to interfere with the proceedings of States, except to promote peace and maintain regular proceedings among the Craft. Others again assert that the General Body is shorn of all power, and unable to enforce any edict should one become necessary, forgetting that in more than one instance those who make the loudest outcry in this direction have most persistently voted against such amendments to the Constitution as would give the General Grand Chapter the powers they declare it ought to have, and for the lack of which they seek to destroy it. It is impossible that both classes should be satisfied, but it is very evident that neither cares to be; that while shouting different war cries they are really bending their energies in the same direction, and serving the greed for change, even though to accomplish it they should pull out the pillars and bring down the Temple about their heads. This Grand Chapter was one of the earliest to unite itself with the movement for the formation of the General Grand Chapter, and has ever since remained steadfast in its allegiance. Its representatives have never given aid or countenance to any legislation looking to the disruption of the General Body, because there has never been any cause for it. Jealous of our rights as a Grand Chapter as any of our peers can possibly be of theirs, we have never for a moment experienced any difficulty in the exercise of our just powers, nor any hindrance in enforcing our edicts and resolutions for the government of our subordinates. Yet we should be just as much justified in joining the hue and cry which some are attempting to raise, and exclaim as vehemently about the invasion of rights which have never been invaded as the most inveterate of the destructives.

He evidently attaches a just value to Reports on Correspondence, for he says:—

Our relations with all corresponding bodies continue to be of the most fraternal character. You will be able the more fully to appreciate this by an examination of the Report on Correspondence, which, in obedience to your resolution of last year, has been printed, and is now ready for distribution. In your own interest, I not only ask that you will give this report a careful examination, but that you will cause it to be read in your respective Chapters for the information of the companions. Whoever does thus examine the document in question will have a better and more enlarged idea of the status, needs, and progress of Royal Arch Masonry, than he could well get in any other way; and, additionally, we shall find that as we more closely commune with our companions in other jurisdictions, we shall more thoroughly appreciate our mutual ties, and more fully enter into that spirit which makes the Royal Craft, wherever dispersed, one family, with one organization, one government, one destiny.

The Deputy Grand High Priest reports the issue of two dispensations to form new Chapters, which, together with those issued by the Grand High Priest, make eight in all issued during the year. The Grand Treasurer's report shows the comfortable balance of \$15,545 18 in the treasury.

The report of the Grand Secretary gives the following statistics: Exalted during the year, 1927; affiliated, 98; restored, 48; total increase, 2073. Dimitted, 289; suspended for non-payment of dues, 367; suspended for other unmasonic conduct, 7; expelled, 13; died, 170; total decrease, 846; net increase, 1227.

The Order of High Priesthood was conferred on forty-seven companions by the Grand High Priest, assisted by the Grand and Past Grand Officers. It appears that a regular Council of High Priests was convened during the recess of the Grand Chapter, and having no connection with that Grand Body further than that the Grand Officers officiated in the Council. We can see no particular objection to this arrangement, provided the candidates are duly elected by ballot; and much ink has apparently been wasted on the subject of the assumption by the Grand Chapter of jurisdiction over the Order of High Priesthood.

Representatives of the Grand Chapters of Missouri, Oregon, Louisiana, Minnesota,

New Jersey, and Ohio were received and accredited with all the honors, and eloquent addresses were delivered by the *M. E.* JOHN L. LEWIS, Representative of the Grand Chapter of Louisiana, and by the *M. E.* D. A. OGDEN, Past Grand High Priest, presiding.

Comp. LEWIS feelingly alluded to the relations existing between the Grand Chapter of Louisiana and that of New York, as follows :—

Very pleasant memories are connected with the Grand Chapter of Louisiana, which I have the honor to represent. In all the changing relations of the past it has ever been our true friend and ally ; and now, in these days of our palmy prosperity, it tenders to this Grand Chapter, through me, her favored representative, its cordial and fraternal greetings, (which I also present in behalf of the Grand Chapters represented by my distinguished companions.) as when in the darker periods of our history it gave us words of cheer and sympathy. I can not forget the time when one of its noblest chiefs, bearing my own name, who became an officer of the General Grand Chapter, and who now reposes in his last resting place, stood by my side with the voice of his Grand Chapter. I will never forget when another, my esteemed friend and brother, yet living, and who has the peculiar name of a great American statesman, in the midst of the horrors and distresses of a great civil war, sought out our soldier boys of the mystic tie, and administered to them relief and consolation, “tenderly supporting the drooping head and binding up the broken heart.” He, too, was a Grand High Priest and officer of the General Grand Chapter. God bless him forevermore for his kindness !

We presume Comp. LEWIS alluded to that true Mason and noble hearted gentleman, JOHN QUINCY ADAMS FELLOWS ; there are few such good fellows, and we echo the benediction with all our heart.

We have only room for the concluding paragraph of Comp. OGDEN’s eloquent response :—

Most excellent companions ! send greeting to your respective Grand Chapters the assurance of our most cordial good feeling, our fraternal regard, and of our honest desire to continue intimate relationship with them all. Let me add, in conclusion, speaking for myself, and I believe speaking the united sentiment of all my companions, that I trust the time is not distant when throughout the whole wide domain of the United States it will be said, “the Royal Craftsmen every where work in harmony, that each separate State Grand Chapter is united in fraternal allegiance to one common head, the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and that every where there is peace, unity, brotherly love, and in all parts prosperity and fraternity.”

The Committee on Jurisprudence submitted the following report :—

IV. The question is also submitted to us, “is a High Priest, who has been regularly elected and installed, but who has not received the order of High Priesthood, competent to install the officers of a Chapter ?” Our reply is in the negative. If, as decided by this Grand Chapter, the possession of the order of High Priesthood and its solemn anointing is necessary to qualify a High Priest for the discharge of his duties, then much more should it be necessary for him to be thus qualified legally to confer that power upon another. It is no objection to the conditions of this rule, that it may sometimes work inconvenience ; and we are confident that it is the only safe rule and sound principle by which to be guided, while the imperative rule of the Royal Craft requires him to be anointed in order to be fully qualified for his office.

If the Grand Chapter have decided that the possession of the Order of High Priesthood is necessary to qualify a High Priest for the discharge of his duties, then is the report of the committee correct so far as that jurisdiction is concerned, and with such a decision as the law, we can not see the necessity for propounding such a question, the committee could, of course, make but one answer ; but we question the correctness of such a decision. We hold that the Order of High Priesthood is an honorary degree, to be conferred only upon those who have been duly elected by their companions in Council assembled, and has no reference to the duties of a High Priest, so far as the government of his Chapter is concerned. It bears no analogy to the Past Master’s degree in the blue Lodge, for that is intended to instruct the new Master in the duties of his office, and is required to be conferred upon him previous to his installation, whereas the Order of High Priesthood is conferred only upon those who have been regularly elected and installed ; and a High Priest duly installed in his office is, in our opinion, perfectly competent to discharge all its duties without any knowledge of the Order of High Priesthood.

A committee of three was appointed to prepare a suitable testimonial to the retiring Grand High Priest, Comp. JOHN W. SIMONS.

The Report on Correspondence is an able production, from the pen of Comp. JOSEPH WHITE. He reviews the transactions of thirty-five Grand Chapters, California for 1870 among the number. The Report of Comp. MASON, of the District of Columbia, seems to have ruffled the surface of his naturally serene nature, and he stirs up our unfortunate companion with an exceedingly sharp stick, as follows :—

Comp. JOHN E. MASON submitted the Report on Correspondence, in which he exhausts himself in spiteful scratches and dabs at the General Grand Chapter, like a froward infant quarreling with the hand that keeps it warm, and prevents its innocent little soul from parting company with its scarce formed body. Happening to enjoy the acquaintance of various companions at the "National Capitol," we know that they will feel aggrieved and ashamed at this Quixotic vapping, and this self-sufficient parading of their Grand Chapter, as lost to every sense of honor, and false to the obligations on which rest its claim to existence.

We dislike exceedingly to soil our pages with such anti-masonic utterances, but the following, in the notice of New York, is so conspicuously inexact, that we can not allow it to pass without notice.

Speaking of the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in New York, the District of Columbia committee say : "Outside of New York city it is kept in as good condition as in other States, but in the city its present condition is deplorable."

The father of all evil never invented a more transparent and utterly untenable misstatement than is contained in the above reference to the city of New York. Nowhere under the broad canopy of heaven where Royal Arch Masonry exists is it in more prosperous, harmonious, and united condition than in the city of New York. Among our Chapters there are some of the largest in the world, and yet, during the past four years not a ripple has disturbed the smooth current in which they move. Their relations with each other are most cordial and satisfactory; they pay their debts and obligations promptly and in full, and give courteous and fraternal welcome to all worthy companions; they obey without hesitation or argument the Constitution and edicts of the Grand Chapter, and never permit themselves to doubt the binding nature of their obligation to support the Constitution and edicts of the General Grand Chapter. If this be a deplorable condition of things, we most sincerely hope that it may continue, and that no worse days may ever come to Royal Arch Masonry than it is now passing in the city of New York.

Upon reflection we are of opinion that the writer of the District of Columbia report threw out this "elongation," without any other knowledge or thought than that it would annoy the General Grand High Priest. Such an act would exactly square with the general tenor of the report, and suggests the inquiry, whether our companions of the District do not feel as if they could be put to a better use than being made the apparent promoters of common scandal.

The M. E. BEES G. WILLIAMS was elected Grand High Priest, and the R. E. CHRISTOPHER G. FOX was reelected Grand Secretary.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The twenty-third Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of North Carolina was held in the city of Wilmington, commencing on the fifth day of June, 1871, the M. E. WM. MURDOCH, Grand High Priest, presiding, the R. E. THOMAS B. CASE being Grand Secretary. Twelve subordinates were represented at the opening. Six months only had elapsed since the last Grand Convocation, the time of meeting having been changed from December to June.

Royal Arch Masonry in this State does not appear to be in so prosperous a condition as we could wish, several of the Chapters having forfeited their charters, probably through failure to meet within the prescribed time, or to make returns to the Grand Chapter. Some of them petitioned for the restoration of their charters, and a resolution was adopted leaving the cases of all the delinquent Chapters to the discretion of the Grand High Priest, to take such action as he might deem for the best interests of the Royal Craft. The baleful results of the civil war seem to have crippled their energies and destroyed their vitality to a greater extent than in any other of the southern jurisdictions; but there is evidence of returning zeal, and we sincerely hope that before the next Annual Convocation, the dark cloud of adversity will have rolled away, and that a new era of prosperity and success will have

dawned upon them. The Grand High Priest, in his Address, earnestly advocates a return to their allegiance to the General Grand Chapter, and his arguments appear to have had the desired effect, as a resolution was adopted repealing the act of secession, and providing for a representation in the next Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Body. We are glad to see that the Grand Chapter have taken a different view of the question of disseminating the work by means of cypher, from that entertained by it in 1869, as will appear from the following preamble and resolution, which were adopted :

WHEREAS, There is a manifest disapprobation on the part of subordinate Chapters throughout this jurisdiction, as to the use of cypher in the teaching of the work adopted by this Grand Chapter, or in conferring degrees, and

WHEREAS, The use of cypher is in violation of solemn vow and contrary to the teaching of Masonry, and the existence of the same is dangerous to the Institution, therefore,

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter forbids the use of cypher, letter or key, in the practice of the work in its subordinates, or the making, using, vending or keeping of the same by any Mason in this jurisdiction, and hereby directs that all books or papers purporting to be cyphers or keys to the Chapter work, in possession of any Mason under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, be destroyed by burning.

We hope a similar course will be adopted wherever this reprehensible practice exists.

The Report on Correspondence was presented by Comp. JOHN NICHOLS, in which he gives a summary of the transactions of twenty-eight Grand Chapters, several of them for two years. Our proceedings, we fear, had not reached him, as no mention is made of California in the report. We hope to be able to reach the old Pitch Pine State in future. The report is a well written and interesting paper, and we are pleased to notice that its author received the reward of merit by being elected Grand High Priest. The *R. E.* THOMAS B. CARR was reelected Grand Secretary.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The pamphlet containing the transactions of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, comes to us just in time to find a place in this report, which is now in the printer's hands. We observe that two Emergent Convocations were held : one on the fourth and the other on the eleventh day of April, 1871. The first was held for the purpose of receiving notices of motion to amend the Constitution, and the last to consider said motions. No business of general interest was transacted at these Emergencies.

The second regular Annual Convocation was held in the city of Halifax, on the sixth day of April, 1871—the *M. E.* S. R. SIRCOM, Grand King, presiding, the *R. E.* JAMES GOSSIP being Grand Secretary. Three subordinate Chapters were represented.

The Acting Grand High Priest stated that the Grand High Priest, Hon. ALEXANDER KEITH, was at the present time in the United States, undergoing an operation for the recovery of his eye-sight, which fully accounts for his absence from this Convocation of the Grand Chapter. He says :—

During the past year we have had the most satisfactory assurances of the good will and brotherly friendship of the companions on this continent. The establishment of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia has almost universally received the unqualified approval, the warmest sympathy, and the most fraternal consideration from the Grand Chapter of England and those in America. In no single instance, on this continent, has the legality of our formation been questioned, and only one Grand Chapter, (the Grand Chapter of Tennessee), so far as we have heard from, have delayed extending to us the right hand of fellowship, in consequence, as they state, of the action taken by the Grand Chapter of Scotland (as set forth in their circular bearing date Nov. 4th, 1869.) Although the Grand Chapter of Tennessee have not formally recognized us, still they have exchanged reports with us, and have also entered our Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary's names among their lists of correspondents.

He reports the issue of one dispensation to form a new Chapter, and four special dispensations for sundry purposes. The three subordinate Chapters are reported to be in a flourishing condition, and the members all zealous in acquiring the ritual, and

careful in the selection of the material to be incorporated into the temple. The Grand Chapter owes two hundred dollars, and has in the treasury, after paying all expenses, including interest, the sum of one hundred and forty-six dollars and forty-six cents. We congratulate our young sister upon the auspicious beginning of the second year of her existence, and assure her that she has our best wishes for her future prosperity and success.

The Grand Chapter of Scotland (the parent Grand Body) has not yet formally recognized the new Grand Chapter; but, as the recognition of the Grand Chapter of England, and all the Grand Chapters of the United States, with the exception, perhaps, of Tennessee, has been given, we presume that of Scotland will not long be withheld.

The Report on Correspondence was again presented by Comp. J. CONWAY BROWN, and is an able and courteous review of the the transactions of twenty-six Grand Chapters—California, we regret to say, is not among the number.

The *M. E. S. R.* SIBCOM was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* JAMES GOSSIP was reelected Grand Secretary.

OHIO.

The fifty-fifth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Ohio was held in the city of Sandusky, commencing on the twenty-sixth day of September, 1871, the *M. E.* CHAS. C. KIEFER, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* JAMES NESBIT being Grand Secretary. All the Grand Officers were present, and seventy-five subordinate Chapters were represented. The Grand High Priest, in his Address, says: "Death has been busy during the past year, and I feel that I am not competent to write or talk as I should in regard to those whose departure I shall bring to your notice."

He then alludes most feelingly to the death of Comps. EMBREE, REED and SPARROW, all veteran workers in the Masonic field, and pays a fitting tribute to their memory. He reports the issue of five Dispensations to form Chapters, and that three applications for Dispensations had not been granted, owing to the near approach of the Annual Convocation. From the report of the Grand Treasurer we learn that the comfortable balance of \$4,044.55 remained in the treasury, after defraying the expenses of the year.

The following resolution was offered and referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence:

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this Grand Chapter, a Master Mason who has become maimed in person is not thereby prevented from receiving the degrees conferred in a Royal Arch Chapter.

The Committee, in reporting on the above, offer the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand Chapter, a Master Mason who has become maimed in person, is not thereby absolutely physically disqualified for receiving the degrees conferred in a Royal Arch Chapter, but the degree of injury or maiming that shall constitute physical disqualification for the receiving of degrees shall be left, as the moral and other necessary qualifications are, with the several subordinate Chapters.

The resolution, adopted in 1868, with reference to this question, was repealed. This resolution reads: "A Master Mason who has lost an arm or leg, hand or foot, is not a proper candidate for the Chapter degrees."

In our opinion the question of physical qualification should invariably be decided by the following test: Can the candidate do all that is required of a Royal Arch Mason to perform as he passes through the ceremonies of the various degrees? If this question can be affirmatively answered, there can be no objection to his admission; if not, we say he is not a proper candidate for the degrees, and should be rejected.

We should judge that the Grand Secretary, or the Chairman of the Committee on

Correspondence, or whosever's duty it may be to read reports, would rejoice at the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That hereafter the report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence shall be referred to the *M. E.* Grand High Priest, and printed in the proceedings, without reading, except such portions as may contain resolutions and recommendations.

We think it quite bad enough to be compelled to write a long-winded report on Correspondence, without being obliged to stand up and read it right out in meeting ; besides, we have here a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, and some of them (not the animals) are members of the Grand Chapter. *Verb. sat. sap.*

The Report on Correspondence was prepared by Comp. J. KELLY O'NEALL, and reviews the transactions of twenty-two Grand Chapters. California, we are sorry to say, is not among the number. The report is well prepared, but we should much prefer to see the quotations printed solid ; it facilitates digestion—of the report—and relieves the eye.

The number of Royal Arch Masons borne upon the rolls of the subordinate Chapters for the year 1870, was 6671 ; number for 1871, 7060 ; making an increase of 389.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were both reelected.

OREGON.

The Grand Chapter of Oregon held its eleventh Annual Convocation in the town of Salem, commencing on the sixteenth day of June, 1871—the *M. E.* JAMES R. BAILEY, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* R. P. EARNHART being Grand Secretary. All the Grand Officers were present, and four subordinate Chapters were represented.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is the very "soul of wit ;" that is, if brevity entitles it to that distinction, and is confined to the recital of his few official acts. He says : "Continued prosperity has attended us, and, so far as I am advised, not a single note of discord has been heard among the workmen in the mystic temple." He reports the appointment of sixteen representatives near other Grand Chapters, and the issue of one special dispensation to ballot upon the petitions of two candidates without waiting the constitutional time. The committee, to whom the address was referred, failed to discover a peg on which to hang a report, and gave it up in despair.

The report of the Grand Treasurer shows a balance on hand of \$186 34.

Comp. T. McF. PATTON presented an excellent Report on Correspondence, albeit he apologizes for being green in the business. We deeply sympathize with him in his verdancy, for we are in the same boat ; but if we succeed in approximating to the excellence of Comp. PATTON's report, we shall encase ourself in the armor of self-gratulation and bid defiance to the shafts of the old stagers. Of California, he says :—

The proceedings of this Grand Lodge for 1870 have been furnished us, endorsed on the cover by our Grand Secretary—"The only copy in the possession of the Grand Chapter." This endorsement does not intimidate your committee in the least. We pay no attention to hints, *verbal* or written, and propose to clip from this copy in the same *graceful* manner that we do from any other proceedings, provided we find anything worth clipping and our scissors work.

Your committee deeply regret that our *M. E.* Grand High Priest will be denied his "feast on California fruits," but we can offer no consolation whatever. If he wants anything in that line, he can send his order through the Grand Secretary, just as we did, and persevere until he succeeds. Rare fruits are seldom in the market, unless specially ordered. Terms, cash.

We can assure our companion that the proceedings were duly mailed to the Grand Secretary, and if he did not receive them it is not our fault. Our "rare fruits" are not in the market, but a supply may always be obtained by proper parties, upon application to our Grand Secretary. In conclusion, he says :—

We have found much interesting matter that could have been culled, and trans-

ferred to our report, but upon mature deliberation we have recanted, and out of pure sympathy, allowed the copy to be forwarded to our *M. E.* Grand High Priest.

We know it will make him feel good to see how well the Grand High Priests of the two jurisdictions agree as to the propriety of *short* and concise addresses.

Five Chapters are borne upon the roll, with an aggregate membership of one hundred and seventy-five.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were both reelected.

PENNSYLVANIA.

We have received an abstract of the proceedings of the Most Excellent Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania, and Masonic jurisdiction thereunto belonging, being extracts from the minutes of its Quarterly and Annual Grand Communications, and the Report of the Committee on Correspondence for the year A. D. 1870, A. I. 2400.

But little business of importance was transacted at the Quarterly Communications. We give the following Report of the Committee on Work, at the Quarterly Communication, held on the third day of November, 1870:—

The Committee on Work made a report on the proper regalia for the officers of subordinate Chapters, so far as relates to head-dresses, as follows: For High Priest, a mitre, white; for King, crown, scarlet; for scribe, turban, purple; made to correspond with the figures in the centre of their respective jewels.

In addition to the foregoing, your committee would recommend for adoption the following described regalia:—

For Captain of the Host, a helmet, dark blue, with gilt plate in front, and the words "Holiness to the Lord," engraved thereon.

For Principal Sojourner, turban, light slate or stone color; same as now in use by the Grand Chapter.

For Royal Arch Captain, crown; same as now in use by the Grand Chapter, with cross-swords on the upper part.

For Chaplain, white turban, with gilt plate in front, and the words "Holiness to the Lord," engraved thereon.

For Masters of the Vails, crowns; same color as the vails; made same as those now in use by the Grand Chapter, with straight sword on the upper part.

For Master of Ceremonies, crown; same as now in use by the Grand Chapter.

For Pursuivant, crown; same as now in use by the Grand Chapter.

For Tyler, crown; same as now in use by the Grand Chapter.

For Captain of the Host, a semi-military dress, consisting of dark blue tunic, made of merino worsted, to come just below the knee; sword suspended by a belt around the waist, in order to conform somewhat to the figure in the centre of the jewel worn by him.

For Principal Sojourner, robe of light slate or stone color; same as now in use by this Grand Chapter.

For Signet, a ring with triangle engraved thereon, and the Hebrew letter "Jod" in the centre of the triangle.

The Annual Communication was held, as were the Quarterly Communications, in the city of Philadelphia, commencing on the twenty-seventh day of December, 1870, St. John's Day—the *M. E.* MICHAEL NISBETT, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* JOHN THOMSON being Grand Secretary. Fifteen Chapters were represented.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is almost entirely confined to local matters, and consists principally of an account of the number of Chapters visited, and a description of the good times enjoyed at such visitations. He reports having made, during the year, twenty-five informal visitations, ten Grand Visitations, besides, on numerous occasions, meeting with the officers of Chapters and Grand Officers for the purpose of instructing them in the work.

He says, "there are at present in this jurisdiction three Mark Lodges and seventy-four Chapters, all of which, with the exception of two Chapters, are in a flourishing condition, more particularly the Chapters constituted during this year, whose rapid growth is unparalleled in our Masonic history." Two other Chapters which have been suspended, are desirous of resuming labor—No. 172, at Tunkhannock, and No. 184, at Kittanning. We do not wonder that these Chapters "paled their ineffec-

tual fires," and we marvel that they ever exhibited any symptoms of revivification. The names of their respective localities are sufficient to kill almost anything. The Shirt-tail Cañon and Jackass Gulch, of California, are euphonious in comparison.

The income of the Grand Chapter for 1870, was \$7116 43; annual dues unpaid, \$421 98; and the investments amount to \$13,300.

The following extract from the Address of the Grand High Priest exhibits a state of affairs which would not be tolerated in this jurisdiction:—

I feel it my duty to call your attention to the too prevalent practice of conferring the degrees forthwith on applicants as sojourners. The practice does not exist in this city; but in some of the Chapters out of it the laying of an application over for a month is the exception, not the rule. That every case of conferring the degrees forthwith is a case of emergency, is too improbable for a moment's consideration. In many instances the applicants, instead of being told to send their applications to the Chapter, are told to bring them. The Chapter is then told that it is a case of emergency; that the brother has come so many miles to obtain his degrees, and it will be very inconvenient for him to come again.

The folly of calling all the forthwith cases, cases of emergency, was fully exemplified in one Chapter I visited, where the minutes state, petitions were received from two applicants, which, being cases of emergency, were referred to a committee, to report forthwith. The committee reported forthwith, the candidates were balloted for, and approved, but were not present to receive the degrees at that meeting, nor at the following one, and for all I know, have probably not presented themselves to this day.

I am of opinion, that cases of emergency, as contemplated by the Constitution, rarely occur, and that it is unwise and unjust to confer the degrees forthwith upon an applicant, unless there are very good reasons for doing so: unwise, because, from want of thorough and proper scrutiny, improper material may be introduced into the Chapter; unjust, because a portion of the members are deprived of what is not only their privilege, but their right—the opportunity of expressing their opinion of an applicant by their ballot. As the privilege accorded by the Constitution is abused in so many instances, I would recommend that the practice be prohibited, except by authority of dispensation, to be issued in each instance, or else that a fee be exacted for each case of conferring the degrees forthwith.

The statistical table shows the number of Royal Arch Masons, borne upon the rolls of the seventy-four subordinate Chapters, to be six thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight.

Our companions of Pennsylvania must find it difficult to invent names for their Chapters, as we observe that two of them bear the name of Oriental.

The Report on Correspondence is from the pen of Comp. GEORGE GRISCOM, and is an able and courteous review of the transactions of thirty-four Grand Chapters, our own, for 1870, receiving fraternal notice. In reviewing the transactions of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, he uses the following pointed language:

Without entering into the merits, *pro* or *con*, of the controversy which preceded and accompanied the separation of this jurisdiction from Maryland, we cannot but here express our astonishment, as well as grief, at the totally unmasonic style in which that subject is treated in the comments made on it in the report of the Committee on Correspondence, printed in these proceedings of the District of Columbia.

The language and tone of those comments (after the separation was completed) throughout are without the slightest spirit of conciliation, and steeped in that of vituperation to a degree that would degrade the columns of the lowest partisan newspaper in the bitterest political controversy. We are deeply sorry to see such a blur upon what should be the pure sheet of the Masonic annals of America.

It is a strong illustration of the vicious practice of allowing controversies about any differences which may arise within the precincts of Masonry to go into print at all. The practice and conduct of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania in abstaining from all public controversy, and in declining, as it did, to take any part whatever in that between Maryland and the District of Columbia, has been eminently wise; and the utter unprofitableness of any result from such interference is here most vividly exemplified. As it is certainly to the disparagement, not to say disgrace of our honorable fraternity, that such language should be put before the world, we are forced to refrain from any quotation from this part of the District of Columbia's report.

He concludes his excellent report with the following pithy remarks:

We think we may safely say, after a careful review of the proceedings of our sister Grand Chapters, that there is not, in the whole of the vast and multifarious mass of disquisitions, any one point of business or doctrine which calls for the special

action of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, or upon the discussion of which it would be either expedient or profitable that we should enter : *First*, Those of the discussions which relate to the landmarks of Masonry are not fit subjects for a public report, and are, therefore, not expedient ; and, *secondly*, those which criticise the civil polity or literary style prevailing in sister jurisdictions are not within the range of our legitimate business, and therefore we think an interference on our part is uncalled for, and would be altogether useless and unprofitable.

We also think it is not the business of a Committee on Correspondence to enter into discussion or criticism of or to interfere in any way with the internal affairs or polity of other Grand Chapters. It is not even the province of the Grand Chapter itself to do this, unless, perhaps, in exceptional cases, when, as a Grand Chapter, she is called upon by the express request of another Grand Chapter for advice or coöperation.

We further hold that it is not the business of such Committee to make public to the world any part of the internal government, and especially any part of the ritual of the Order. We therefore look upon all such discussions (which are very apt to, and, as reported, very frequently do, grow into heated and even exasperated controversies) as utterly out of place in these "Reports."

Moreover, it is decidedly our opinion that it is not at all the province of such Committee to undertake to decide mooted points of Masonic law, whether affecting the landmarks of the fraternity or otherwise. This is exclusively within the province of the Supreme Chief of the jurisdiction, the Grand High Priest, or of the Grand Chapter itself, or of such delegation of such power as they in their wisdom and by their supreme authority may see fit to make for that express purpose.

We have thus fraternally acknowledged the courteous communications from thirty-four of our sister Grand Chapters. We give our thanks to the companions of these Grand Bodies, one and all, and most cordially reciprocate their fraternal kindness. We cannot refrain from saying, notwithstanding the formidable labor, that the perusal of this vast mass of Masonic "Proceedings" has given us great and unfeigned pleasure and gratification, as well as useful instruction.

Any slight defects we have noticed in the grand picture of fraternal happiness and unity presented by these proceedings, although they somewhat mar, are not sufficient to seriously injure its harmony and beauty, and may well be passed over and forgotten. They exhibit, without material exception, a condition of universal harmony and prosperity throughout our fraternity in America. They show, in a most striking manner, the benign influence of Royal Arch Masonry upon the tone of public sentiment and morals of the whole community, as well as on the character and destiny of that "favored few" who enjoy the benefits of affiliation in its delightful associations. We have cause for mutual congratulations upon these results, and for hope and confidence that the power which is thus rapidly growing for good will continue unimpaired by the least contamination with profane or unworthy influences.

The writer of this report has found the labor of its preparation a constant source of most pleasant occupation, and of Masonic benefit to himself, and would gladly continue in the position of honor which would make for him the same duty for the ensuing year, but that the pressure of necessity in his private affairs will put it out of his power to give the time and attention required for its proper performance. He therefore respectfully requests that the M. E. Grand High Priest will appoint some companion in his place for the purpose.

We sincerely regret that Comp. GRISCOM should have found it necessary to ask to be relieved ; the perusal of his report had afforded us so much pleasure that we are eager for more from the same source, and the Grand High Priest evidently believed with us, that it is best to hold fast to a good thing, as, notwithstanding his prayer for relief, Comp. GRISCOM was again appointed Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were both reelected.

RHODE ISLAND.

A Special Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations was held in the city of Portsmouth, on the twenty-second day of November, 1870, for the purpose of constituting *Acquidneck* Chapter and installing its officers. The Grand Chapter was escorted by the new subordinate to the church, and the ceremonies were performed in public. No further business was transacted.

The Annual Convocation was held in the city of Providence on the fourteenth day of March, 1871—the M. E. THOMAS A. DOYLE, Grand High Priest, presiding, the

R. E. GEORGE H. BURNHAM being Grand Secretary—this being the seventy-third Annual Convocation.

The Grand High Priest, in his Address, announces the death of the **R. E. PARDON CLARK**, Past Grand King of the Grand Chapter, who departed this life on the twenty-fifth day of December, 1870, at the ripe old age of eighty-three years. He says of the deceased veteran :—

He was one of the few remaining of that noble band to whom we are indebted for firmness in the hour of trial, for unflinching devotion to our institution, and for words of encouragement in the dark days which followed the anti-Masonic crusade.

He then administers the following quiet but telling rebuke to the companions for their non-attendance at his funeral :—

Agreeably to a promise made to him in his last illness, I officiated in my capacity as Grand Master of Masons, and read the funeral service of the Grand Lodge. As I looked upon the few in attendance, I felt that had our deceased companion and those like him shown the same luke-warmness to duty in his day that the absent members of the Fraternity in this city did on that occasion, the institution would hardly have been as prosperous as it is at this time.

One dispensation was granted to form a new Chapter, and two special dispensations—one to transact business at a Special Convocation ; the other, to authorize the resignation of two officers of a Chapter, and the election of others in their stead. From this it appears that Rhode Island recognizes the right of officers of a Masonic Body to resign "under certain circumstances." The following decisions were reported :—

1st.—That in the admission to the Past Master's degree of a candidate who has received the degree under the authority of the Grand Lodge, it is only necessary to administer the O. B. ; all other ceremonies may be omitted.

We cannot concur in this decision.

2d.—In reply to an enquiry from a High Priest in Delaware, that in this jurisdiction none but present or Past High Priests can be elected to the office of Grand High Priest, and that unaffiliated Royal Arch Masons cannot be members of the Grand Chapter, and therefore are not eligible to the office of Grand High Priest.

Concerning the General Grand Chapter he remarks :—

I have heard nothing during the year from the committee appointed at the session of the General Grand Chapter in St. Louis, to whom was committed the subject of what was termed the seceded Grand Chapters, ours being among the number. I had anticipated that at least a correspondence might be opened with us in reference to our position, and that the able companions who have the subject in charge would furnish arguments to convince us of the great good we might receive from becoming a member of their organization. In this, however, I have been disappointed, and I presume for the reason that their attention has been engrossed by the efforts made in the larger and more important Grand Bodies of the country to dissolve the General Grand Body. I do not anticipate that we shall receive much attention until these other and larger bodies have been brought into quiet submission. So long as they are struggling to get out, it is of but little consequence to force us in. I deem it proper, however, to recommend that as the next session of the General Grand Body is to be held so near us as Baltimore, that our Grand High Priest attend the session, not as a participant, but as an observer of the proceedings, in order that we may, from the personal observation of our own representative, obtain a full knowledge of what is done, and of the true sentiments of the leading Masonic minds of the country upon this important question.

By referring to the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter we find that **Comp. DOYLE** was present, and we trust that he saw and heard enough to induce him to recommend to his Grand Chapter a return to her allegiance.

The number of exaltations during the year was one hundred and seventy-seven, and he reports the Grand Chapter free from debt, and financially prosperous. The Grand Chapters of Delaware and Nova Scotia are officially recognized. Nine chartered Chapters were represented, and one under dispensation. Amount of dues received, \$354.

The Report on Correspondence was presented by the Grand Secretary, **Comp. GEORGE H. BURNHAM**. He gives a synopsis of the transactions of thirty-seven Grand

Chapters, our own for 1870 being among the number. It is an exceedingly interesting and able report, and our scissors fairly ache to go to work upon it; but, alas! we have but one copy, and we may not be able to obtain another.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were both reelected.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The Grand Chapter of South Carolina held its Annual Convocation in the city of Charleston, commencing on the fourteenth day of February, 1871—the *M. E.* JAMES A. HOYT, acting Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* AUGUSTIN T. SMYTHE being Grand Secretary. Twenty-one subordinate Chapters were represented, thirty-nine being borne upon the roll. The Grand High Priest, who from some unexplained cause was absent, presented, through the Past Grand Scribe, an excellent address, in which he takes a cheerful view of the present condition and future prospects of Royal Arch Masonry in that jurisdiction. When we consider how much our companions in South Carolina have suffered, such utterances as the following come to us like sunshine through the dark clouds:—

Everything around us speaks of happiness and joy—abundant crops and rich, teeming harvests have crowned the labors of the husbandman, and the white and spreading sails of commerce bear the burden with which they are richly freighted to all points of the world, and assures the hope, that at least in our beloved land, the clarion of discord has sounded its last discordant note, and that happiness and plenty crown, and are the meet reward of the faithful and the just.

The blood-red blossoms of war have given way to the pure lilies of eternal peace, and the star of hope now resplendently shines, giving promise of the security and enjoyment of all of our rights.

I am pleased to communicate that the condition of our jurisdiction is most flattering and prosperous, and that the utmost harmony prevails. The only contention is the noble rivalry in bringing our Chapters up to that standard which shall best secure happy results for the benefit of the Order. This is the feeling which animated our country Chapters, and I have no doubt those of our metropolis work with a like incentive.

We assure our companions that we rejoice in their prosperity, and fervently hope that no disturbing element will be permitted to mar their brilliant prospects in the future. Five dispensations were issued to form new Chapters, which is proof conclusive of unflagging zeal and unabated interest in the welfare of the Order.

The Grand High Priest thinks the Grand Chapter did wrong in authorizing the Report of the Committee on Correspondence to be presented without reading, and published in the proceedings, and as we are inclined to agree with him in this, we give his argument upon the question:—

The standing opinions and expressions of the foreign jurisdictions are all important to the well being of the Order, and frequently present matters of grave and high importance for the consideration of the sister bodies. From them are received information and knowledge of transactions of a valuable character, which may influence our own action and deliberation.

To refer matters which might contain information of vital importance concerning the welfare and standing of our institution, and emanating from all our sister Grand Chapters, without being read, appears to me to be fraught with danger, and may entail most serious consequences. It goes forth as the report of South Carolina, sustained by the Grand Chapter, when it may only be the emanation of a single member of said committee. Another difficulty which presents itself to my mind, and which is apparent, is that great unintentional wrong may be done by expressions of opinion, coming from the committee, which, without a report thereon, and spread upon our records, is published to the world as containing the sanction and approbation of our Grand Chapter.

For a Master Mason to “intrude himself upon” and become a member of a Chapter without first affiliating with some Lodge, he denounces as an imposition; cites one case that occurred, and urges the companions to guard against any future violation of the law in this respect. He announces, in feeling terms, the death of Comp. WM. EPHRAIM MIKELL, Grand Principal Sojourner, and pays a fraternal tribute to his memory.

The Grand Secretary presented an elaborate report, in which he shows that the

office has been no sinecure in his hands. The representatives of the Chapters lately under dispensation, but to whom charters were granted at this Convocation, were received as delegates from said Chapters, and granted all the rights and privileges thereof. We hold that delegates from lately chartered Chapters have no right to vote in Grand Chapter until their Chapters have been duly constituted and their officers installed.

The Report on Correspondence is again from the pen of Comp. JAMES BIRNIE, and is a model report. He reviews the transactions of thirty-one Grand Chapters, California among the number, in a courteous and fraternal manner, and although he makes no quotations, everything of interest to the Royal Craft is noticed and commented upon. We doubt not that his mantle has fallen upon worthy shoulders; but while we congratulate him upon his exaltation to the honorable position of Deputy Grand High Priest, we can but regret the loss of so interesting a reporter. In his report on Delaware, he expresses our views, as follows:—

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence not having time since the reception of the proceedings to prepare a report, gave only their excuse. The committee, however, express it as their decided opinion that Committees on Foreign Correspondence have no business to discuss the various points of Masonic law and to pronounce opinions in relation thereto. We dissent from this view of the duties of these committees. As a matter of course, whatever opinions they express are only the opinions of one or two men, and are to be measured accordingly; but we conceive that it is peculiarly their province to discuss all matters of importance arising in the proceedings, and express their opinions thereon. The dicta of Committees on Foreign Correspondence are one of the great sources of Masonic jurisprudence, and are valued accordingly.

The statistical table shows that seventy candidates were exalted during the year; fifteen dimitted, one was expelled, and ten died; total membership, six hundred and nine.

The *M. E.* JAMES A. HOYT was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* AUGUSTIN T. SMYTHE was reelected Grand Secretary.

TENNESSEE.

The Grand Chapter of Tennessee held its Annual Convocation in the city of Nashville, commencing on the eighth day of November, 1871—the *M. E.* WILLIAM H. ARMSTRONG, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* JOHN FRIZELL being Grand Secretary. Seventy-four chartered Chapters were represented at the opening, and six under dispensation.

The Grand High Priest delivered a good Address, devoted mainly to a recital of his official acts. He decides that a Chapter under dispensation has the right to discipline its members; in which decision we fully concur. Also, that an actual Past Master must take the degree in the Chapter prior to exaltation. From this decision, the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom it was referred, dissented; but the Grand High Priest was sustained, and properly, too, by the Grand Chapter. Upon the subject of uniformity of work, he discourses as follows:—

Uniformity of work is not yet an accomplished fact. Something has been done in this direction but much remains to be done. Some of the companions in the State seem to think that your action in 1869, adopting a uniformity of work, left it optional with them to receive or reject that work. Some even question your authority for such an action. These companions have not yet reached that point in the knowledge of Capitular Masonry where wisdom begins. Those who entertain this opinion, (few in number, I am glad to say,) as a general thing, I have found to be those who know the least about the rituals, history, laws, and customs of Masonry. Ignorance is inexcusable in this age of light, and to obtain more light should be the object of every Mason.

We find self-opinioned, ignorant men, everywhere; in Church, in State, and in Masonry, exhibiting the same characteristics. They oppose every object that calls for a united effort. They are willing to see the beautiful ceremonies of our noble Craft made ridiculous, if by that means a few more ignorant than themselves may consider them wise. They oppose the publication of Masonic books, periodicals, newspaper articles, or anything that would throw a ray of light, and if in your coun-

sels their advice is not followed, they become greatly incensed. I would recommend some more effective measures upon this subject, and the appointment of a Grand Lecturer other than the one you have had, to carry them out.

Three dispensations were issued to form new Chapters. In discussing the morals of the Craft, he makes use of the following forcible language:—

In most places I have found the standard of morals high, in others too much neglected. I have no desire, neither would it be possible to make of ours a denominational or temperance organization; still, as it is founded on the principles of virtue, and as the law which is to govern every Mason is the Great Light, contained in the Holy Bible, we cannot insist too strongly upon moral qualifications. Among those who are taught never to use the name of Deity but with that reverence which is due from the creature to the Creator, the profane swearer, the drunkard, the libertine, and the dramseller, have no place; and how much worse is it when such men are placed in official positions, and held up as examples and models. These are those who draw on us reproach and condemnation. Those who are guilty of such practices should be healed, or we should remove them fearlessly and without partiality. Companions, will you see to this when you return to your subordinate jurisdictions?

The Committee on Jurisprudence submitted the following report, which was adopted:—

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence having had referred to them a resolution asking the Grand Chapter, in substance, to require all Royal Arch Masons, whether members of any Chapter or not, to pay dues to the subordinate Chapter within whose local jurisdiction they may reside, beg leave to report that this Grand Chapter has not the constitutional power to make such a regulation, or to enforce the same by any Masonic law.

We should think not. We believe in compelling every Mason to pay dues to some Lodge, provided he is able to do so, but we think that is going far enough. The Grand Lecturer question was disposed of by the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the *M.: E.:* Grand High Priest be requested, when asked so to do by a subordinate Chapter, to appoint any well qualified companion, whom such subordinate may desire, to impart the work and lectures adopted and recognized by this Grand Chapter, such subordinate to pay the expenses incurred thereby.

We fear our companions of Tennessee will find that, to establish uniformity of work by such means, is a slow process.

The Report on Correspondence was prepared by Comp. GEORGE S. BLACKIE, Assistant Grand Secretary. He commences his report as follows:—

We are glad to be able to state that our report contains an abstract of the proceedings of ALL the Grand Chapters in the world, being FORTY-ONE in number, and all situated in North America, except those of England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland. These we have carefully examined, and we submit our digest of their contents, hoping it may afford our companions such information as they desire.

Comp. BLACKIE has certainly succeeded in presenting a full and interesting report, and we congratulate him upon his good fortune in obtaining the proceedings of all the Grand Chapters in the world. If we could obtain those of all the Grand Chapters in the United States we should deem ourselves peculiarly fortunate. California for 1871 is briefly but fraternally noticed. In concluding his report, Comp. BLACKIE says:—

And thus, companions, we have finished our work. We have been enabled to report upon all the Grand Chapters of the United States, and the sum of the whole is that the Royal Craft was never more prosperous, more successful, more united than it now is. The enemies of Masonry, who examine its history with an eye single to every thing that is evil, prepared to believe and greedily drink in all that is discreditable to the Order, can find among us, no matter how deep they search, nothing but pure and good principles and an earnest endeavor to act up to those principles.

Eighty-seven Chapters are borne upon the roll, with an aggregate membership of 4161.

The *M.: E.:* A. J. WHEELER was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R.: E.:* JOHN FRIZELL was reelected Grand Secretary.

TEXAS.

The Grand Chapter of Texas held its twenty-second Annual Convocation in the city of Houston, commencing on the twelfth day of June, 1871—the *M.: E.: S. S.*

MUNGER, Grand High Priest, presiding, the R. E. ROBERT BREWSTER being Grand Secretary. Forty-four subordinate Chapters were represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered a good Address, relating principally to matters of local interest. He decides that substitutes can not be used, there being a constitutional provision forbidding it. We find the following decisions :—

Can a Chapter under dispensation grant jurisdiction to a chartered Chapter in another State to confer on a brother the M. E. and R. A. degrees, he having been marked and passed in the Chapter under dispensation?

Answer.—A Chapter under dispensation has the same rights, as to jurisdiction and candidates, as a chartered Chapter.

We concur. He decides that it is not necessary for companions who desire to form a new Chapter to dimit from the Chapter of which they are members previous to signing a petition for a dispensation. The contrary is the rule in California.

Two brethren have received all the degrees except the Royal Arch. There were three protests filed against each of them. Are they thus stopped, or are they entitled to an investigation of the reasons on which the protests have been filed?

Answer.—A protest has the same effect as a black ball, until withdrawn by the companion presenting it, and more than one is equivalent to more than one black ball. It would not be any more allowable to investigate the cause of the protest than it would the black ball.

From this decision we dissent; when a brother has received one or more degrees, we hold that good and sufficient reason should be given for arresting his progress.

We have been in the habit of wearing blue Lodge clothing and jewels in all degrees below Royal Arch. Is this right, or should the proper Chapter jewels and clothing be worn in all degrees?

Answer.—It is proper for all *Royal Arch* Masons to use Chapter regalia in the appendant degrees.

A Master Mason affiliated in Louisiana, but a resident of Texas, applies for the Royal Arch and appendant degrees. Has the Chapter the right to receive and act upon his petition? and,

2d. If, in the above stated case, a companion objects to the reception of the petition, because the applicant is not affiliated in Texas, and the High Priest overrules the objection, and appeal is taken, can the High Priest proceed with the petition during the pendency of the appeal?

Answer.—A Master Mason, affiliated in Louisiana, can not be said to be a *non-affiliated* Master Mason with us in Texas. We recognize, and our Grand Lodge is in correspondence with, the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. The applicant is not prohibited by the resolution of June, 1860, from receiving the Royal Arch and appendant degrees.

2d. I have decided that the objection was not a good one, and the High Priest was right in overruling it; but the companion objecting had a right to appeal, and it is not right to go on with the case until the appeal is decided or withdrawn. The appeal stands in the nature of a protest until action is had upon it.

The following resolutions were adopted :—

Resolved, That suspension for non-payment of dues has the same effect as suspension for unmasonic conduct, except that on payment of all dues by the suspended companion, he becomes thereby reinstated without any vote of the Chapter.

Resolved, That should a companion, suspended for non-payment of dues, fail to pay the same during the further space of twelve months after his suspension, he may be expelled by the Chapter by regular proceedings and trial.

The first resolution we believe to be correct; but the second carries the matter too far. No companion should be expelled for the non-payment of his dues.

A resolution was adopted instructing the subordinate Chapters to abandon the practice of charging fees for affiliation.

The Grand Orator delivered an eloquent and interesting oration; there are many good things in it we would like to quote, but have room only for the following extract :—

Our Order holds the proud and lofty position of being a leader in the lists of benevolence. Its principles, if scanned, will prove its title to the high place which has been allotted to it. I shall not declare that all other secret associations are derived from Masonry, still it is not too much to assume that our Order has suggested the outline upon which all other kindred associations are constructed. The Odd Fellows

and the various orders of Temperance are, so far as their secret character is concerned, the offspring of Masonry. Whether we adopt the position, that Freemasonry took its rise in India, or Egypt, or Greece, it does not disturb the settled question of the priority of our origin. Nor do all the speculations which assumed that our manner of teaching the principles of our mystic profession, is derived from the Druids, who worshipped one Supreme God, immense and infinite, or that our maxims of morality were derived from Pythagoras, who taught the duties which we owe to God and our fellow-men, or that our emblems were originally from Egypt, militate against the general admission of the superior antiquity of the Masonic Institution. Venerable for antiquity—honorable for its love and maintenance of order—sacred in its devotion to truth—heroic in its adherence to charity—it has won the regard of Monarchist and Republican, King and Governor, Lord and Citizen, Peasant and Beggar. Its marble temples, its institutes of learning, and its long catalogue of noble achievements, place it in the front rank among the noble charities which distinguish this remarkable age.

There is no Report on Correspondence—an omission we very much regret, as there are many able companions in Texas whose literary efforts would cause the "Lone Star" to shine with refulgent light in the constellation of Grand Chapters.

The *M. E.* J. B. JONES was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* ROBERT BREWSTER was reelected Grand Secretary.

WISCONSIN.

The twenty-first Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Wisconsin was held in the city of Milwaukee, commencing on the seventeenth day of January, 1871—the *M. E.* THOS. B. TYLER, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* WILLIAM T. PALMER being Grand Secretary. Thirty-eight chartered Chapters, and two under dispensation, were represented at the opening. The Address of the Grand High Priest is brief and entirely devoted to matters of local interest. He reports the decease of twenty-four companions during the year. He says:—

It is a matter of congratulation, that this is the twenty-first anniversary of the existence of this Grand Chapter. On the day of its birth, in the year 1850, we numbered but five subordinate Chapters, with a membership of one hundred and twenty-five. To day, we behold the representatives of forty Chapters, with a membership of over three thousand Companions.

Are we not justified in the belief that our institution has been under the guardianship of good and wise men? And may we not claim that it has become one of the great moral powers, whose mission it is to teach man how to live in this world, and to aid him in his preparation for the next?

Harmony and concord, I am happy to say, have prevailed among the Royal Craft throughout this jurisdiction, during the past year.

He strongly condemns the practice of using "keys and ciphers," and recommends that all such abominations be collected and destroyed; in which recommendation he has our hearty concurrence. He reports the issue of two dispensations to form new Chapters. He is of the opinion that Comp. J. Q. A. FELLOWS will make a good representative of his Grand Chapter near the Grand Chapter of Louisiana. We arrived at the same conclusion one year ago, and appointed him to represent us. The following paragraph finds a responsive echo in our breast; may the hope soon end in fruition:—

I cannot allow this occasion to pass without announcing the gratifying fact that temperance, one of the cardinal virtues, is receiving its due share of attention. In times past, this arch enemy has made sad inroads upon our institution. The ponderous blows of my most excellent predecessor, together with the efforts of other good and distinguished members of the Fraternity, have had a salutary effect—have to some extent crippled the monster. I sincerely hope that, ere long, it may be truthfully said, that no man who has bowed at the altar of Free Masonry, worships at the shrine of Bacchus.

The Grand Treasurer reports the comfortable balance on hand of \$2754 62.

The Report on Correspondence is from the pen of Comp. SAMUEL FELLOWS, and gives a brief *resumé* of the transactions of thirty-three Grand Chapters. California receives brief—very brief—mention. He complains of our fine print, but we can not see that his is any improvement.

The M.: E.: JOSEPH YATES was elected Grand High Priest, and the R.: E.: WM. T. PALMER was reelected Grand Secretary.

All which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,
For the Committee.

Which report was ordered to be printed with the proceedings.

Comp. THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL presented a commission constituting him the representative of the Grand Chapter of Louisiana, and on motion he was received and accredited as the representative of that Grand Body.

The Grand Secretary then presented his Annual Report as follows :—

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California :—

The undersigned respectfully submits the following report of the transactions of the Grand Secretary's office during the year ending January thirty-first, 1872.

As soon as possible after the close of the last Annual Convocation, the proceedings thereat were printed and the usual number of copies was distributed to the Chapters, to the Grand and Past Grand Officers, and transmitted to all the Grand Chapters with which we are in communication.

By order of the Grand High Priest, dispensations were issued for the formation of two new Chapters, viz :—June first, 1871, to *Solano* Chapter, at Suisun, Solano County; July nineteenth, 1871, to *Visalia* Chapter, at Visalia, Tulare County. In the latter case, the application for a dispensation with the necessary papers, and the fee, \$90. was forwarded to the late Grand Secretary prior to the last Annual Convocation, and should have been submitted to the Grand Chapter at that time; this, however, was not done, and none of the papers save the dimits of the petitioners have since been found. The companions, however, forwarded another application for a dispensation, with all the necessary documents, and the fee, believing that the Grand Chapter would in justice to them refund the amount. The petitions for these dispensations, with the accompanying papers required by the Constitution, the record book, by-laws, and returned dispensation of *Solano* Chapter, together with a petition for its perpetuation by charter, are herewith submitted. The books and papers of *Visalia* Chapter have not as yet been received by the undersigned.

By order of the Grand High Priest, a special dispensation was, on the first day of February, 1872, issued to *Donner* Chapter, No. 39, authorizing an election of officers at a time other than that prescribed by the Constitution, this being the only special dispensation issued during the year.

No form of credentials for representatives near other Grand Chapters having been prescribed by this Grand Body, and the appointment at the last Annual Convocation of seven distinguished companions as representatives of this Grand Chapter abroad rendering such a form imperatively necessary, the undersigned has prepared a form of credentials, copies of which, duly signed and attested, have been forwarded to the companions already appointed as representatives; from all of whom answers have been received, accepting the appointments, and expressing their thanks to this Grand Chapter for the honor conferred upon them. The form of credentials is herewith submitted for your approval.

The receipts of the Grand Secretary since the twelfth day of April, 1871, have been as follows :—

The Grand Secretary in account with the Grand Chapter of California, for the year ending February 1st, 1872.

RECEIPTS.

L. C. OWEN, funds belonging to Grand Chapter,.....	\$1422 00
San Francisco Chapter, No. 1, dues in full to Feb. 1st, 1872,.....	293 00
Sonora, " No. 2, " " " "	— —
Sacramento, " No. 3, balance dues last year,.....	184 00
" " No. 3, dues in full to Feb. 1st, 1872,.....	315 00
California, " No. 5, " " " "	501 00
Nevada, " No. 6, " " " "	121 00
Benicia, " No. 7, " " " "	86 00
Shasta, " No. 9, " " " "	109 00
Sutter, " No. 11, " " " "	135 00
Calaveras, " No. 12, " " " "	62 00
Washington, " No. 13, " " " "	258 00
Howard, " No. 14, " " " "	141 00
Cyrus, " No. 15, " " " "	108 00
St. James, " No. 16, " " " "	90 00
Libanus, " No. 17, " " " "	54 00
" " No. 17, balance dues last year,.....	65 00
Grass Valley, " No. 18, dues in full to Feb. 1st, 1872,.....	140 00
Trinity, " No. 19, " " " "	40 00
Franklin, " No. 20, " " " "	88 00
Sierra, " No. 21, " " " "	106 00
Petaluma, " No. 22, " " " "	106 00
Oliver, " No. 23, " " " "	84 00
La Fayette, " No. 24, " " " "	36 00
Georgetown, " No. 25, " " " "	89 00
Oakland, " No. 26, " " " "	129 00
Delta, " No. 27, " " " "	44 00
Stockton, " No. 28, " " " "	174 00
Manzanita, " No. 29, " " " "	112 00
Napa, " No. 30, " " " "	80 00
Martinez, " No. 31, " " " "	71 00
Los Angeles " No. 33, " " " "	128 00
Alturas, " No. 34, " " " "	112 00
Naval, " No. 35, " " " "	154 00
Alameda, " No. 36, " " " "	167 00
Siloam, " No. 37, " " " "	66 00
Santa Cruz, " No. 38, " " " "	82 00
Donner, " No. 39, " " " "	95 00
" " No. 39, dispensation to elect officers,.....	5 00
Red Bluff, " No. 40, balance dues last year,.....	16 00
" " No. 40, dues in full to Feb. 1st, 1872,.....	79 00
Temple, " No. 41, " " " "	91 00
Chico, " No. 42, " " " "	142 00
Solano, " U. D., dispensation,.....	90 00
" " U. D., dues in full to April 1st, 1872,.....	96 00
Visalia, " U. D., dispensation,.....	90 00
" " U. D., diplomas,.....	22 00

Making a total of.....\$6678 00

All of which has been paid to the Grand Treasurer, as per his receipt herewith submitted. The books and vouchers for orders drawn upon the Grand Treasurer, and papers of the Grand Secretary's office, are herewith submitted for examination.

In making the investigation of the accounts of the late Grand Secretary, it was discovered that the returns of all the Chapters for 1871 were missing from the Grand Secretary's office; long and diligent search was made for them, but they could not be found. By direction of the Grand High Priest, the undersigned addressed a communication to each of the Secretaries of the subordinate Chapters, requesting them to send duplicates of their returns. The request was cheerfully complied with, although it cost the Secretaries much time and trouble to prepare them; but after this was done the missing reports were returned as mysteriously as they had disappeared. By whom they were removed, or for what purpose, or by whom they were returned, will probably remain a mystery.

All which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,
Grand Secretary.

Which report was referred to the Committee on Finances.

The Grand Chapter was then called off until two o'clock this afternoon.

In Grand Chapter.

AFTERNOON SESSION,
Tuesday, April 9, A. I. 2402. }

The Grand Chapter was called on at two o'clock, the Grand High Priest presiding.

The Grand High Priest announced the following committees:—

On Finances:

Comp. James Laidley,
" James Dods,
" John Ernest Kunkler,
" Hiram Throop Graves,
" Jeremiah Elken Whitcher.

On Charters:

Comp. Isaac Sutvene Titus,
" Edward Richard Hedges,
" William Rousch,
" Charles Lewis Pond,
" Nathan Weston Spaulding.

On By-Laws:

Comp. Theodore Edward Smith,
" Tallman Hathaway Rolfe,
" Henry Hay Knapp,
" Ambrose Hall Cowden,
" John Morris Walbridge.

On Returns:

Comp. Wm. Thompson Luther,
" George Heirn Gilbert,
" Osgood Hilton,
" Thomas Kent Hook,
" Nathan Hosmer Stone.

On Grievances:

Comp. Benj. Franklin Myres,
" James Martin Rodgers,
" James H. Hoadley,
" Henry Warren Russell,
" Richard Munt.

On Payment of Delegates:

Comp. Alfred Coolidge Waitt,
" Wiley James Tinnin,
" John Nelson Besse,
" Daniel Potter Bystle,
" Henry Peck.

The Grand High Priest announced the appointment of the following named companions to fill vacancies in the Committee on Jurisprudence :—

Comp. Thomas Hubbard Caswell,
 “ Charles Fayette Lott,
 “ Louis Cohn,
 “ John Francis Snow.

The Grand Treasurer presented his Annual Report, as follows :—

The Grand Treasurer in account with the Grand Chapter of California.

DR.

Cash received from Grand Secretary,.....\$6678 00

1871.

CR.

April.	Paid delegates in attendance at Annual Convocation, as per pay roll,.....	\$ 908 00
“	“ Grand Officers in attendance at Annual Convocation, as per pay roll,	114 00
“ 26.	“ IRA C. ROOT, Grand Guard, for attendance at Annual Convocation, as per voucher No. 1,.....	25 00
May 1.	“ SAMUEL D. MAYER, Grand Organist, for attendance at Annual Convocation, as per voucher No. 2,...	22 50
“ 29.	“ FRANK EASTMAN, print'g proceedings, as per voucher No. 3,.....	445 80
Sep. 13.	“ PLUM, BELL & Co., Carpet, as per voucher No. 4,..	115 91
Dec. 16.	“ S. & G. GUMP, hanging picture, as per voucher No. 5,	1 50
1872.		
Jan. 31.	Paid DOWNING & Co., painting sign, as per voucher No. 6,.	5 00
Feb. 9.	“ FRANK EASTMAN, printing, as per voucher No. 7	56 25
“ 19.	“ Bulletin Co., advertising, as per voucher No. 8,	17 50
“ 21.	“ MICHEL FRIEDLANDER, for gloves, as per vouch'r No. 9,	3 00
“ 23.	“ Chronicle, advertising, as per voucher No. 10,.....	12 00
Mar. 25.	“ PAYOT, UPHAM & Co., for stationery, as per voucher No. 11,.....	24 50
Apl. 9.	“ CHARLES L. WIGGIN, Grand Secretary, salary, as per voucher No. 12,	1200 00
“ 9.	“ Expenses Grand Secretary's office, as per voucher No. 13, ..	30 00
	Balance in treasury this date,.....	3697 04

Total.....\$6678 00

All which is respectfully submitted.

JOSEPH B. SCOTCHLER,
 Grand Treasurer.

Which report was referred to the Committee on Finances.

Comp. JOSEPH B. SCOTCHLER, from the special committee to whom was referred the Address of the Grand High Priest, presented the following report :—

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California :—

Your committee, to whom was referred the Address of the M.: E.: Grand High Priest, have carefully considered that paper, and beg leave to express their entire

approval of its sentiments and recommendations. The very able and elaborate presentation of the affairs of the Grand Chapter, was to be expected from the great ability and experience of our chief officer, and believing no further comment to be necessary, we recommend that the Address of the Grand High Priest be apportioned as follows :—

To the Committee on Jurisprudence, so much thereof as relates to *Quincy* Chapter, No. 32, and to the use of substitutes ;

To the Committee on Charters, so much thereof as relates to the constituting of *Donner* Chapter, No. 39, at Truckee ; *Red Bluff* Chapter, No. 40, at Red Bluff ; *Temple* Chapter, No. 41, at Watsonville, and *Chico* Chapter, No. 42, at Chico, and to the issue of dispensations to form and open *Solano* Chapter, at Suisun City, and *Visalia* Chapter, at Visalia ;

To the Committee on By-Laws, so much thereof as relates to sundry amendments to the by-laws of Chapters ;

To the Committee on Finances, so much thereof as relates to the accounts of the late Grand Secretary, and the resolution of the General Grand Chapter levying an assessment upon each member of the subordinate Chapters ; and to a special committee of three, to report at the next Annual Convocation, so much thereof as relates to the uniformity of work.

Your committee recommend that the action of the Grand High Priest in taking bonds of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, in granting a dispensation to *Donner* Chapter to elect its officers at a time other than that named in the Constitution, in consolidating *Sonora* Chapter, No. 2, and *Columbia* Chapter No. 8, and in appointing a Deputy Grand Lecturer, be approved by the Grand Chapter.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JOSEPH B. SCOTCHLER, }
GEORGE HEIRN GILBERT, } *Committee.*
CHARLES LEWIS POND, }

The following communication from the General Grand Secretary of the General Grand Chapter was received and referred to the Committee on Finances :—

General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, for the United States of America.

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL GRAND SECRETARY,
BUFFALO, New York, Sept. 30th, 1871: }

R.: E.: *Charles Louis Wiggin,*
Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of California :—

DEAR SIR AND COMPANION :—You are fraternally requested to communicate the following to your Grand Chapter at its next ensuing Annual Convocation, it being a copy of a resolution adopted by the General Grand Chapter at its recent Triennial Convocation, held at the City of Baltimore, Md., September 19-22:—

“*Resolved*, That the State Grand Chapters throughout the jurisdiction, be requested to cause to be paid annually to the General Grand Secretary of this General Grand Chapter, the sum of one cent for each Royal Arch Mason borne upon the rolls of their subordinates at the date of their annual reports ; the fund so created to be used to defray the necessary expenses of the General Grand Chapter ; and the General Grand Secretary be and hereby is instructed to pay the General Grand Treasurer the amounts so collected, and make report thereof at each Triennial Convocation.”

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the record ; and in witness thereof, have hereunto affixed the seal of the General Grand Chapter, the day and year first above mentioned.

CHRISTOPHER G. FOX,
General Grand Secretary.

On motion of Comp. GEO. T. GRIMES, the election of Grand Officers was made the special order for two o'clock, P. M., to-morrow.

The Grand Chapter was then called off until this evening at half-past seven o'clock.

In Grand Chapter.

EVENING SESSION,
Tuesday, April 9th, A. I. 2402. }

The Grand Chapter was called on at half-past seven o'clock, the Grand High Priest presiding.

On motion of Comp. CHARLES F. LOTT, the Grand Lecturer exemplified the work in the Royal Arch degree.

The Grand Chapter was then called off until to-morrow morning at ten o'clock.

In Grand Chapter.

MORNING SESSION,
Wednesday, April 10th, A. I. 2402. }

The Grand Chapter was called on at ten o'clock, the Grand High Priest presiding.

The minutes of the sessions of yesterday were read and approved.

Comp. THOS. H. CASWELL, from the Committee on Jurisprudence, presented the following report :

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California :—

Your Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred that portion of the M.: E.: Grand High Priest's Address relating to the use of substitutes in the ceremony of exaltation, beg leave to report—

That they have carefully considered and fully recognized the importance of the subject matter so referred. That they acknowledge the decision of the General Grand Chapter, that "the use of substitutes is not a violation of the ritual and installation charges," as conclusive and binding ; and that the recommendation for the

use of "full classes of actual candidates," is fully endorsed, and is in accordance with the custom which has ever prevailed in this jurisdiction. But while thus accepting the decision and endorsing the recommendation, your committee agree with the *M. E.* Grand High Priest that some safeguard should be provided whereby the evils referred to by him may be prevented, and at the same time afford a definite rule for the guidance of the Chapters of this State. Without further comment, therefore, your committee submit the following resolutions, and recommend their adoption:—

Resolved, That the use of substitutes shall not be permitted for purposes of rapid advancement, or for accommodation merely, but only when the Council of the Chapter, in the exercise of a sound discretion, shall be satisfied that the good of Royal Arch Masonry will be promoted thereby.

Resolved, That the use of more than one substitute at a time is prohibited, unless the dispensation of the Grand High Priest, permitting such use, be first procured; said dispensation to be issued only for good cause shown, and upon a petition signed by a majority of the Council of the Chapter, asking such dispensation.

All which is respectfully submitted.

THOMAS H. CASWELL,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
JOHN F. SNOW,		
CHARLES F. LOTT,		
POWELL S. LAWSON,		
LOUIS COHN,		

Comp. CHARLES FAYETTE LOTT, from the same committee, presented the following report:—

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of California:—

Your Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred that portion of the Address of the *M. E.* Grand High Priest relative to changing the location of Quincy Chapter, No. 32, respectfully report—

That from information received since the Grand Chapter was convened, showing a different state of affairs in connection with said Quincy Chapter, than that under which the *M. E.* Grand High Priest was induced to make the recommendation, your committee deem it inexpedient at this time to change the location of said Chapter, but would respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolution:—

Resolved, that the Grand High Priest be requested to summon the members of Quincy Chapter, No. 32, to meet at their hall in the town of Quincy on Saturday, the first day of June ensuing, for the purpose of electing and installing the officers of said Chapter, and that he appoint some Past High Priest to preside at said meeting and to install the officers who may at that time be elected by the members of said Chapter.

All which is respectfully submitted.

THOMAS H. CASWELL,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
POWELL S. LAWSON,		
CHARLES F. LOTT,		
LOUIS COHN,		
JOHN F. SNOW,		

Which reports were concurred in and the resolutions accompanying them were adopted.

Comp. BENJAMIN F. MYRES, from the Committee on Grievances, reported that no business had been presented to that committee for its consideration.

Comp. WILLIAM THOMPSON LUTHER, from the Committee on Returns, presented the following report :—

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of California :—

The undersigned respectfully report that returns from the following Chapters have been received and that they are in all respects correct, and in most instances well and carefully prepared, and that the dues of each are as set opposite their respective names :—

		Gen. Fund.	Rep. Fund.	Total.			Gen. Fund.	Rep. Fund.	Total.
San Francisco, No. 1,..	\$187	\$106	\$293	La Fayette, No. 24,..	\$18	\$18	\$36		
Sonora, " 2,..	—	—	—	Georgetown, " 25,..	51	39	90		
Sacramento, " 3,..	201	114	315	Oakland, " 26,..	65	64	129		
California, " 5,..	290	211	501	Delta, " 27,..	24	20	44		
Nevada, " 6,..	72	49	121	Stockton, " 28,..	93	81	174		
Benicia, " 7,..	55	31	86	Manzanita, " 29,..	62	50	112		
Shasta, " 9,..	60	49	109	Napa, " 30,..	49	31	80		
Sutter, " 11,..	81	54	135	Martinez, " 31,..	36	35	71		
Calaveras, " 12,..	40	30	70	Los Angeles, " 33,..	70	58	128		
Washington, " 13,..	168	90	258	Alturas, " 34,..	82	30	112		
Howard, " 14,..	78	63	141	Naval, " 35,..	87	67	154		
Cyrus, " 15,..	54	54	108	Alameda, " 36,..	111	56	167		
Saint James, " 16,..	52	38	90	Siloam, " 37,..	36	30	66		
Libanus, " 17,..	27	27	54	Santa Cruz, " 38,..	48	34	82		
Grass Valley, " 18,..	75	65	140	Donner, " 39,..	58	37	95		
Trinity, " 19,..	22	18	40	Red Bluff, " 40,..	50	29	79		
Franklin, " 20,..	48	40	88	Temple, " 41,..	66	25	91		
Sierra, " 21,..	59	45	104	Chico, " 42,..	109	33	142		
Petaluma, " 22,..	58	48	106	Solano, U. D.,	73	23	96		
Oliver, " 23,..	48	36	84	Visalia, " ..	—	—	—		
Making a total of.....				\$2863	\$1928	\$4791			

W. S. LUTHER,
OSGOOD HILTON, } Committee.
N. H. STONE,

Which report was concurred in.

Comp. JAMES LAIDLEY, from the Committee on Finances, presented the following report :—

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of California :—

Your Committee on Finances respectfully report that they have examined the account books and vouchers of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, and find them correct in all respects.

The receipts for the fiscal year ending February 1st, 1872, were as follows :—

Received from L. C. OWEN,.....	\$1422 00
Dues from subordinate Chapters,.....	4784 00
To General Fund,.....	\$2860 00
To Representative Fund,.....	1924 00
From dispensations to new Chapters,.....	180 00
Special dispensation,.....	5 00

From diplomas issued,.....	22 00
Balance dues from <i>Sacramento</i> Chapter,.....	184 00
Balance dues from <i>Libanus</i> Chapter,.....	65 00
Balance dues from <i>Red Bluff</i> Chapter,.....	16 00

Total,.....\$6678 00

Which has been expended as follows :—

For expenses of delegates at Annual Convocation, 1871,.....	\$908 00
Expenses of Grand Officers, 1871,.....	114 00
To Grand Guard,.....	25 00
To Grand Organist,.....	22 50
For printing proceedings,	445 80
To PLUM, BELL & Co., carpets,.....	115 91
For hanging pictures,.....	1 50
For painting sign,.....	5 00
For printing,.....	56 25
For advertising,.....	29 50
For expenses Grand Secretary's office,.....	57 50
For salary of Grand Secretary,.....	1200 00

Total,\$2980 96

Balance in treasury,..... 3697 04

\$6678 00

Your committee are of the opinion that the following appropriations will be necessary for the ensuing year :—

For printing proceedings,.....	\$500 00
For expenses delegates and Grand Officers,.....	1200 00
For salary Grand Secretary,.....	1200 00
For binding volume III. of proceedings,.....	200 00
For rent of Grand Secretary's office,.....	300 00
For Grand Guard.....	25 00
For expenses of Grand Secretary's office,.....	50 00

\$3475 00

Your committee recommend that the Grand Secretary be instructed to forward to the General Grand Secretary of the General Grand Chapter, the sum of one (1) cent for each Royal Arch Mason borne upon the rolls of the subordinate Chapters, for the use of the General Grand Chapter.

With regard to the defalcation of the late Grand Secretary, your committee are of the opinion that all has been done that can be—that no part of the amount (\$7262 31) can ever be recovered, and we therefore recommend that it be charged to profit and loss.

Your committee recommend that an appropriation of three hundred dollars be made to remunerate Comp. MOODY for labor performed by him in investigating the accounts of the late Grand Secretary.

Your committee recommend that the sum of ninety dollars, which was paid by the companions of *Visalia* Chapter to the former Grand Secretary, L. C. OWEN, for the purpose of obtaining a dispensation for opening a new Chapter, be refunded to *Visalia* Chapter by the Grand Chapter.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES LAIDLEY,
J. E. WHITCHER, } Committee.
H. T. GRAVES,

Which report was concurred in, and the recommendations therein made were adopted.

Comp. CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN proposed an amendment to the Constitution by adding to Section 1, Article XIX, the following :—

In all cases of a tie vote, except votes by ballot, the High Priest, in addition to his proper vote, may have the casting vote.

Which was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

Comp. THEODORE E. SMITH, from the Committee on By-Laws, presented the following report :—

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of California :—

Your committee, to whom was referred the amendments to the by-laws of *Sutler* Chapter, No. 11, *Washington* Chapter, No. 13, *Georgelown* Chapter, No. 25, *Los Angeles* Chapter, No. 33, *Naval* Chapter, No. 35, *Temple* Chapter, No. 41, and *Solano* Chapter, under dispensation, approved by the M. E. Grand High Priest, respectfully report, that they have examined the same and find that they relate principally to the regulation of fees and dues and to changes in the time of holding their meetings ; that all conform to the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, and recommend that they be approved.

All which is respectfully submitted.

T. E. SMITH,	} Committee.
T. H. ROLFE,	
J. M. WALBRIDGE,	
H. H. KNAPP,	
A. H. COWDEN,	

Which report was concurred in.

Comp. THOMAS H. CASWELL, from the Committee on Jurisprudence, presented the following report :—

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of California :—

Your committee, to whom was referred the amendment to the Constitution, proposed by the Grand Secretary, have considered the same, and respectfully recommend its adoption.

All which is respectfully submitted.

THOMAS H. CASWELL,	} Committee.
JOHN F. SNOW,	
CHARLES F. LOTT,	
POWELL S. LAWSON,	
LOUIS COHN,	

Which report was concurred in.

On motion of Comp. CHARLES F. LOTT, the amendment to Section 1, Article XIX, of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, proposed by the Grand Secretary, was unanimously adopted.

Comp. JAMES LAIDLEY presented the following resolution :—

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to have printed with the proceedings of this Annual Convocation, the Constitution of this Grand Chapter, together with that of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and the General Regulations and Rules adopted by those bodies, and that two hundred copies of the same be bound separately for the use of the Chapters in this jurisdiction.

Which resolution was adopted.

The Grand Secretary presented the credentials of Comp. CHARLES MARSH as representative of the Grand Chapter of the State of New York, and, on motion, Comp. MARSH was received and accredited in that capacity.

Comp. MARSH then addressed the Grand Chapter on the subject of certain legislation had by the General Grand Chapter at its last Triennial Convocation, held in the city of Baltimore, in September, 1871.

The Grand Chapter was then called off until this afternoon at half past one o'clock.

In Grand Chapter.

AFTERNOON SESSION,
Wednesday, April 10th, A. I. 2402. }

The Grand Chapter was called on at half past one o'clock, the Grand High Priest presiding.

The minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

Comp. ISAAC SUTVENE TITUS, from the Committee on Charters, presented the following report:—

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California :—

Your Committee on Charters, to whom was referred the record book of *Solano* Chapter, U. D., together with a petition for its perpetuation by charter, have carefully examined the records of said Chapter and find them kept in strict accordance with the requirements of the Constitution.

The petitioners having fully complied with the law and regulations, we respectfully offer the following resolution, and recommend its adoption :—

Resolved, That a charter be granted to *Solano* Chapter, at Suisun, Solano County, and that it be numbered forty-three on the registry of this Grand Chapter.

All which is respectfully submitted.

ISAAC S. TITUS, EDWARD R. HEDGES, NATHAN W. SPAULDING, WILLIAM ROUSH,	}	Committee.
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Which report was concurred in, and the resolution accompanying it was adopted.

Comp. JAMES LAIDLEY presented the following resolution :—

WHEREAS, The record book and papers of *Visalia* Chapter have not been received by the Grand Secretary, and there is good reason to believe that some accident has delayed their receipt, therefore be it

Resolved, That the dispensation hitherto granted to said Chapter be continued until the next Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter.

Which was unanimously adopted.

Comp. ALFRED COOLIDGE WAITT, from the special committee appointed to audit the accounts of delegates, presented the following report :—

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of California :—

Your committee, to whom was referred the apportionment of the Representative Fund, have performed the duty assigned them, and recommend that the following amounts be allowed the delegates of the Chapters represented :—

<i>San Francisco</i> , No. 1,.....	\$ 6 00	<i>Oliver</i> , No. 23,.....	28 00
<i>Sonora</i> , " 2,.....	31 00	<i>La Fayette</i> , " 24,.....	46 00
<i>Sacramento</i> , " 3,.....	14 00	<i>Georgetown</i> , " 25,.....	29 00
<i>California</i> , " 5,.....	6 00	<i>Oakland</i> , " 26,.....	7 00
<i>Nevada</i> , " 6,.....	30 00	<i>Delta</i> , " 27,.....	19 00
<i>Benicia</i> , " 7,.....	8 00	<i>Stockton</i> , " 28,.....	13 00
<i>Shasta</i> , " 9,.....	45 00	<i>Napa</i> , " 30,.....	10 50
<i>Sutter</i> , " 11,.....	30 00	<i>Martinez</i> , " 31,.....	10 00
<i>Washington</i> , " 13,.....	22 00	<i>Los Angeles</i> , " 33,.....	38 00
<i>Howard</i> , " 14,.....	7 00	<i>Alturas</i> , " 34,.....	61 00
<i>Cyrus</i> , " 15,.....	80 00	<i>Naval</i> , " 35,.....	10 00
<i>Saint James</i> , " 16,.....	29 00	<i>Alameda</i> , " 36,.....	7 00
<i>Grass Valley</i> , " 18,.....	30 00	<i>Santa Cruz</i> , " 38,.....	18 00
<i>Trinity</i> , " 19,.....	58 00	<i>Donner</i> , " 39,.....	42 00
<i>Franklin</i> , " 20,.....	24 00	<i>Temple</i> , " 41,.....	18 00
<i>Sierra</i> , " 21,.....	61 00	<i>Chico</i> , " 42,.....	24 00
<i>Petaluma</i> , " 22,.....	11 00	<i>Solano</i> , U. D.,.....	10 50

And that the following amounts be allowed the Grand Officers in attendance :—

Grand High Priest,.....	\$14 00	Grand Chaplain,.....	\$7 00
Grand Scribe,.....	45 00	Grand Lecturer,.....	6 00
Grand Royal Arch Captain,.....	6 00		

All which is respectfully submitted.

ALFRED C. WAITT, WILEY J. TINNIN, JOHN N. BESSE, DANIEL P. BYSTLE, HENRY PECK,	}	Committee.
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On motion, the sum of \$10 was ordered to be paid to the Grand Guard, for services rendered on the occasion of laying the corner-stone of the new City Hall and Law Courts, on the twenty-second day of February last.

The hour for the special order—the election of Grand Officers—having arrived, the Grand High Priest appointed Comps. LOUIS COHN and ALVIN BACON PRESTON as tellers.

Comp. WILLIAM T. REYNOLDS moved that the Grand Lecturer be allowed a vote in the Grand Chapter by virtue of his office, which motion was lost.

The Grand Chapter then proceeded to ballot, with the following result :—

The *M.: E.:* JACOB HART NEFF was elected Grand High Priest ;
 “ *R.: E.:* JOSEPH ISAACS was elected Deputy Grand High Priest ;
 “ *R.: E.:* WILLIAM THOMAS REYNOLDS was elected Grand King ;
 “ *R.: E.:* WILLIAM ALEX. JANUARY was elected Grand Scribe ;
 “ *R.: E.:* JOSEPH BONAPARTE SCOTCHLER was reelected Grand Treasurer ;
 “ *R.: E.:* CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN was reelected Grand Secretary ;
 “ *E.:* HENRY HAY KNAPP was elected Grand Captain of the Host ;
 “ *E.:* NATHAN WESTON SPAULDING was elected Grand Royal Arch Captain.

The Grand High Priest announced the appointment of the following committee, to report at the next Annual Convocation :—

On Uniformity of Work :

Comp. Charles Marsh,
 “ Alex. Gurdon Abell,
 “ Thomas Hubbard Caswell.

The newly elected Grand Officers were then duly installed in their respective stations by the *M.: E.:* JAMES LAWRENCE ENGLISH, except the Grand High Priest, who was not present ; and, on motion of Comp. WILLIAM THOMAS REYNOLDS, the Grand Chapter was called off until Friday morning at ten o'clock.

In Grand Chapter.

Friday, May 12th, A. I. 2402.

The Grand Chapter was called on at nine o'clock, A. M., the Grand High Priest Presiding.

The minutes of the afternoon session of Wednesday were read and approved.

On motion of Comp. CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, it was unanimously

Ordered, That the retiring Grand High Priest, the *M.: E.:* JAMES LAWRENCE ENGLISH, be requested to sit for his portrait, and that the Grand Secretary be instructed to have it suitably framed and placed among the other portraits in the gallery of the Grand Chapter.

The Grand Secretary read the following appointments for the ensuing year, viz : as

Grand Chaplain,... .Comp. BENJAMIN AKERLY,...of Oakland Chapter, No. 26 ;
 Grand Guard,... .“ IRA COLBURN ROOT,...of California “ No. 5.

The Grand High Priest elect and the Grand Guard were then duly installed in their respective stations by the retiring Grand High Priest, the *M. E.* JAMES LAWRENCE ENGLISH.

The Grand Chaplain not being present, it was ordered that he be installed in the subordinate Chapter of which he is a member.

The Grand High Priest announced the appointment of the following standing committees for the ensuing year :—

On Jurisprudence :

Comp. Thomas Allen Brown,
 “ William Sewall Wells,
 “ Powell Samuel Lawson,
 “ George Tuttle Grimes,
 “ Charles Fayette Lott.

On Correspondence :

Comp. Charles Louis Wiggin,
 “ James Dods,
 “ Adoniram Judson Loomis,
 “ John Quincy Adams Stanley,
 “ James Martin Rodgers.

The business of the Grand Chapter being all completed, the minutes of the day were read and approved, and the Grand Chapter of California was closed in *Ample Form*.

JACOB HART NEFF,
Grand High Priest.

ATTEST :

CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,
Grand Secretary.

CONSTITUTION
OF THE
General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

As Revised and Amended at the Twenty-first Triennial Convocation, held at Baltimore, Md., Sept., 1871.

ARTICLE I.

OF THE GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

SECTION 1. There shall be a General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, for the United States of America, which shall be holden triennially, at such time and place as shall from time to time be designated for that purpose; and at which time the General Grand Officers shall be elected by ballot and installed, except the General Grand Chaplain, who shall be appointed by the General Grand High Priest at the commencement of each Convocation of the General Grand Chapter.

The General Grand Chapter, at any regular meeting, may change the time for the next succeeding meeting; and if, in the opinion of General Grand High Priest, or, in case of his death or absence, of the senior General Grand Officer, there shall be danger to life or health, from sickness or other local cause, by any meeting being held at the time appointed, he may change the time of the particular meeting to some subsequent time; and, in the event of such change being made, he shall immediately notify the General Grand Secretary thereof, who shall forthwith notify the other officers and members, in such manner as he may deem best calculated to effect the desired object.

SEC. 2. The General Grand Chapter has and possesses no other powers than such as are indispensably necessary to the exercise of its general powers, and consistent with the nature of the confederation between the State Grand Chapters. It can exercise no doubtful powers, nor any powers by implication merely; and all Masonic powers not hereby granted to it are reserved to the Grand and Subordinate Chapters of the several States, or to Royal Arch Masons individually.

It shall have and maintain jurisdiction over all Chapters established by itself in those States, Districts, Republics and Territories which recognize this jurisdiction, and where there is no Grand Chapter established.

It shall have power to decide all questions of Masonic law, usage and custom which may arise between any two or more Grand Chapters, or in any of the Subordinate Chapters under its own immediate jurisdiction, and all that may be referred to it for its decision by any Grand Chapter, by formal vote; and its decisions so made shall be deemed and regarded as those of the supreme judicial tribunal of Royal Arch Masonry in the last resort.

It shall have no power of discipline, admonition, censure or instruction over the Grand Chapters ; nor any legislative powers whatever, not hereby specially granted ; nor any authority to suspend the proceedings of any State Grand Chapters ; nor shall entertain any complaint against a Grand Chapter, preferred by any Subordinate Chapter or individual Mason in that jurisdiction or elsewhere ; but it may, upon proper reference to it of any matter of controversy between any two or more Grand Chapters, and even where the question is not one of Masonic law, custom, or usage (both or all such Grand Chapters consenting to such reference) act as final arbiter between them, and settle such controversy.

It shall judge of the qualifications of its own members. It shall see that the ancient work of the Order is preserved in the several degrees ; and establish uniform formulas for installation of its own officers and those of Grand and subordinate Chapters ; for the consecration and constitution of Chapters, and the opening of Grand Chapters. And it may suspend the proceedings of any Chapter under its own immediate jurisdiction, in any State, District or Territory where there is no Grand Chapter, for any willful violation of any of the provisions of this Constitution, or for gross unmasonic proceedings or conduct.

SEC. 3. The Officers of the General Grand Chapter shall consist of a General Grand High Priest, Deputy General Grand High Priest, General Grand King, General Grand Scribe, General Grand Treasurer, General Grand Secretary, General Grand Chaplain, General Grand Captain of the Host, and General Grand Royal Arch Captain. These, together with the first four officers, and all Past Grand High Priests of every State Grand Chapter under this jurisdiction, or the proxies of the first four General Grand Officers, and of the first four officers of each State Grand Chapter aforesaid, shall compose the General Grand Chapter : *provided*, that any Chapter under this jurisdiction, in any State, District or Territory where there is no Grand Chapter duly established, shall have a right to appear by its first three officers, or any one or two of them, which officers shall collectively have one vote.

SEC. 4. On all questions to be decided by the General Grand Chapter, each State Grand Chapter shall be entitled to four votes by its representative or representatives. If there be but two representatives, the inferior officer or his proxy shall give but his own single vote, and the higher or his proxy shall give the other three. If there be three representatives, the highest officer or his proxy shall give two votes, and the others or their proxies one each.

The General Grand Officers, when present, shall each have one vote ; and no General Grand Officer shall be allowed to take a seat in the General Grand Chapter, as the representative of any State Grand Chapter ; nor shall any member of the General Grand Chapter be permitted to vote as proxy, while the person giving the proxy is present ; nor shall any person be admitted into the General Grand Chapter as the representative of more than one State Grand Chapter, at one and the same time.

SEC. 5. The General Grand High Priest and Deputy General Grand High Priest shall have authority to call a special meeting of the General Grand Chapter, whenever they may consider it expedient or necessary ; and it shall be their duty so to do when properly requested by a majority of the State Grand Chapters, of which four months notice shall be given of the time and place of meeting.

SEC. 6. The General Grand High Priest, Deputy General Grand High Priest, General Grand King and General Grand Scribe shall severally have power and authority to grant Dispensations, for a limited length of time, for new Royal Arch Chapters and Lodges of the appendant Orders, in any State, Country, Republic or Territory in which there is not a Grand Chapter regularly established, when in their opinion the good of the Craft may require the same ; which term of time shall in no case extend beyond the close of the next triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter. But no new Chapter shall be established in any State, Country, Republic or Territory

where there is a Chapter, within a reasonable distance, under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter, without the approbation of the Chapter nearest to the place where said new Chapter is proposed to be located. And in all cases of such dispensation, the officer who may grant the same shall immediately notify the General Grand Secretary thereof, and make report of the same at the next triennial meeting of this General Grand Chapter, when the General Grand Chapter may grant the said Chapter a charter.

SEC. 7. The fees for instituting a new Royal Arch Chapter, with subordinate degrees, shall be ninety dollars, and no more ; and no credit shall be given for dispensations or charters, or for conferring the degrees, in any Chapter or Lodge under this jurisdiction. And every Chapter, holden by dispensation or charter under this jurisdiction, shall pay into the treasury of the General Grand Chapter the sum of two dollars for each companion therein exalted, until such time as a Grand Chapter shall be regularly established in the State, Country, Republic, or Territory in which such subordinate Chapter is located. The Secretary shall be paid, by the petitioners, ten dollars for his services in furnishing the charter.

The fees in the several States for conferring the several degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason, shall not be less than twenty dollars.

SEC. 8. It shall be the duty of the General Grand High Priest, Deputy General Grand High Priest, General Grand King, and General Grand Scribe, to improve and perfect themselves in the sublime arts, and work of Mark Masters, Past Masters, Most Excellent Masters, and Royal Arch Masons ; to make themselves Masters of the several Masonic Lectures and Ancient Charges ; to consult with each other, and with the Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings, and Scribes of the several State Grand Chapters aforesaid, for the purpose of adopting measures suitable and proper for diffusing a knowledge of the said Lectures and Charges. And the better to accomplish this laudable object, the aforesaid officers are hereby severally authorized and empowered to visit and preside in any Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and Lodge of Most Excellent Master, Mark, and Past Master Masons throughout the said States, and to give such instructions and directions as the good of the Fraternity may require—always adhering to the ancient landmarks of the Order.

SEC. 9. The only degrees recognized by this General Grand Chapter, to be conferred in Chapters under its jurisdiction, are Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason. And no Royal Arch Mason who shall have regularly received said degrees, shall be excluded from the rights of such by reason of his not being in possession of any other so-called degrees.

SEC. 10. In all cases of the absence of an officer from any body of Masons, instituted or holden by virtue of this Constitution, the officer next in rank shall occupy his place, unless, through courtesy or other reasons, he should decline in favor of a Past High Priest.

SEC. 11. In every Chapter and Lodge under the immediate jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter, all questions (except the admission of members or candidates, which shall require a unanimous ballot,) shall be considered and determined in such way and manner as such Chapters and Lodges may, all circumstances considered, find most conducive to their harmony and permanent prosperity: *provided*, they do not in any case interfere with or infringe on the regulations of the General Grand Chapter.

SEC. 12. The General Grand Secretary of the General Grand Chapter shall have and keep a seal, which shall be affixed to all his communications.

SEC. 13. Should any casualty at any time hereafter prevent the triennial election of officers, the several officers shall retain their respective offices until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

SEC. 14. An appeal shall in all cases lie to the General Grand Chapter from the decision of the *M. E.* General Grand High Priest; but his opinion and decisions shall stand as the judgment of the General Grand Chapter, unless it is otherwise determined by the concurrent vote of two-thirds of all the members present.

ARTICLE II.

OF STATE GRAND CHAPTERS.

SECTION 1. The State Grand Chapters shall severally consist of a Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Chaplain, Grand Captain of the Host; and likewise of the High Priests, Kings, and Scribes for the time being, of the several Chapters over which they shall respectively preside, and of the Past Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings, and Scribes of the said Grand Chapters. And the said Grand Chapters shall have full power and authority to elect such other officers and to establish such rules and regulations as they shall, from time to time, consider necessary and proper: *provided*, such regulations do not in any way interfere with the provisions of this Constitution.

SEC. 2. The State Grand Chapters shall severally be holden once in every year, and oftener if they may consider it expedient or necessary, at such time and place as they shall respectively direct. And at their annual meetings, the constitutional officers shall be elected or appointed in such manner as shall be provided for by their rules and regulations, and installed into their respective offices. And the Grand or Deputy Grand High Priests, respectively, for the time being, may call special meetings to be holden at such times and places as they may think proper.

SEC. 3. The several State Grand Chapters shall have the sole government and superintendence of the several Royal Arch Chapters and Lodges of Most Excellent, Past, and Mark Master Masons within their respective jurisdictions; to assign their limits and to settle the controversies that may happen between them; and shall have power, under their respective seals and the signs manual of their respective Grand or Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings, and Scribes, attested by their respective Grand Secretaries, to constitute new Chapters of Royal Arch Masons within their respective jurisdictions; but their jurisdictions shall in no case be construed to extend beyond the limits of the State, except by consent of the General Grand Chapter.

SEC. 4. The Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, severally, shall have the power and authority, whenever they shall deem it expedient, during the recess of the Grand Chapter of which they are officers, to grant letters of dispensation under their respective hands and private seals, to a competent number of petitioners possessing the qualifications required by the seventh Section of the second Article of this Constitution, empowering them to open a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, for a certain specified term of time: *provided*, that the said term of time shall not extend beyond the next meeting of the Grand Chapter of the State in which such dispensation shall be granted: *and, provided, further*, that the same fees as are required by this Constitution for charters, shall be first deposited in the hands of the Grand Secretary. And in all cases of such dispensation the officer who may grant the same shall make report thereof at the next stated meeting of the Grand Chapter of his jurisdiction, when the said Grand Chapter may either continue or recall the said dispensation, or may grant the petitioners a charter of Constitution. And in case such charter shall be granted, the fees first deposited shall be credited in payment of the same; but if a charter should not be granted nor the dispensation continued, the said fees shall be refunded to the petitioners, excepting only such part thereof as shall have been actually expended by means of their application.

SEC. 5. No dispensation or charter shall be granted for instituting Lodges of Most Excellent, Past, or Mark Masters, independent of a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

SEC. 6. The Grand Chapters shall have power, severally, to require from the several Chapters under their respective jurisdictions, such reasonable proportion of sums received by them for the exaltation or advancement of candidates, and such certain annual sums from their respective members as by their ordinances or regulations shall be appointed ; all which said sums or dues shall be made good and paid annually by the said Chapters, respectively, over to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter under which they hold their authority, on or before the first day of the respective annual meetings of the several Grand Chapters.

SEC. 7. No dispensation or charter for the institution of a new Chapter of Royal Arch Masons shall be granted, except upon the petition of nine regular Royal Arch Masons ; which petition shall be accompanied with a certificate from the Chapter nearest to the place where the new Chapter is intended to be opened, vouching for the moral character and Masonic abilities of the petitioners, and recommending that a dispensation or charter be granted them.

SEC. 8. The Grand Secretaries of the State Grand Chapters shall, severally, make an annual Communication to each other, and also to the Secretary of the General Grand Chapter, containing a list of Grand Officers, and all such other matters as may be deemed necessary for the mutual benefit and information of the said Grand Chapters. And the said Grand Secretaries shall also regularly transmit to the Secretary of the General Grand Chapter a copy of all their by-laws and regulations, and also a copy of their proceedings annually, to each of the officers of the General Grand Chapter ; and the State Grand Chapters shall see that their Secretaries faithfully and punctually perform this duty.

SEC. 9. Whenever there shall have been three Chapters regularly instituted and consecrated in any State, Country, Republic, or Territory, by virtue of authority derived from this Constitution, a Grand Chapter shall be established, so soon as convenience and propriety may dictate : *provided*, that the approbation of one of the first four officers of the General Grand Chapter be first obtained. And said Grand Chapters, by their regular officers, shall assemble in some suitable place, elect their officers, and make such rules and regulations for their government as may be necessary, not inconsistent with the regulations of the General Grand Chapter.

SEC. 10. No person shall be permitted to take a seat in any State Grand Chapter as the representative of more than one Chapter, nor unless he is a member of a subordinate Chapter under that jurisdiction.

ARTICLE III.

OF THE SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

SECTION 1. Every Chapter of Royal Arch Masons throughout this jurisdiction shall have a dispensation, as is provided in Section 6, of Article I, or Section 4, of Article II, of this Constitution, or a charter from the General Grand Chapter, or from some Grand Chapter under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter ; and no Chapter shall be deemed legal without such dispensation or charter ; and Masonic communication, both public and private, is hereby interdicted and forbidden between any Chapter or any member of it, and any Chapter or assembly that may be so illegally formed, opened, or holden, without such charter, or any or either of their members, or any person exalted or advanced in such illegal Chapter. But nothing in this section shall be construed to affect any Chapter which was established before the adoption of the Grand Royal Arch Constitution, at Hartford, on the 27th day of January, A. D. 1798.

SEC. 2. Whenever a charter is issued for instituting a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, with a power in said charter to open and hold Lodges of Most Excellent, Past, and Mark Master Masons, the High Priest, King, and Scribe, for the time being, of such Chapter, shall be the Master and Wardens in said Lodges, according to seniority.

SEC. 3. It is incumbent on the High Priest of every Chapter, as appertaining to his office, duty, and dignity, to see that the By-Laws of his Chapter, as well as the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, and the Regulations of the Grand Chapter be duly observed; that all his subordinate officers perform the duties of their respective stations faithfully, and are examples of diligence and industry to their companions; that true and exact records be kept of all the proceedings of the Chapter by the Secretary; that the Treasurer keep and render exact and just accounts of all moneys belonging to the Chapter; that regular returns be made by the Secretary annually to the Grand Chapter, of the admission of all candidates or members; and that the annual dues to the Grand Chapter be regularly and punctually paid. The charter of his Chapter is committed to his special care and charge. He has the right and authority of calling his Chapter at pleasure upon any emergency or occurrence which, in his judgment, may require their meeting, and he is to fill the chair when present. It is likewise his duty, together with his King and Scribe, to attend the regular and special meetings of the Grand Chapter, either in person or by proxy.

SEC. 4. No person, having been a member of a Chapter, shall be admitted a member of any other Chapter under this jurisdiction, until he shall have produced a certificate from the Chapter to which he last belonged that he was in regular standing, and as such, at his own request, is dismissed and recommended.

SEC. 5. That any worthy companion from without the jurisdiction of the United States who may present himself as a Royal Arch Mason, and produce satisfactory evidence of his having received that degree, that each and every Chapter under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter have liberty and they are hereby authorized to confer the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, and most Excellent Master on such companions (who have not heretofore received them,) to the end that they may be healed, and thereby become regular Royal Arch Masons, free of charge.

SEC. 6. That the subordinate Chapter so conferring said degrees shall be exempt from paying any dues therefor.

SEC. 7. It shall not be deemed regular for any Chapter to confer the degrees of the Chapter upon any person whose fixed place of abode is within any other State in which there is a Chapter regularly established, except by the consent of the Chapter nearest the place of residence of said applicant.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SECTION 1. Whenever it shall be inconvenient for the General Grand Officers, or the Grand or Deputy Grand High Priests, respectively, to attend in person, to constitute a new Chapter and install the officers, they shall, severally, have power and authority to appoint some worthy High Priest, or Past High Priest, or the High Priest of the same Chapter while it was under dispensation, when he himself shall have been installed, to perform the necessary ceremonies.

SEC. 2. The officers of every Chapter under this jurisdiction, whether chartered or under dispensation, before they enter upon the exercise of their respective offices, and also the members of all such Chapters, and every candidate upon his admission into the same, shall take the following obligation, viz: "I, A. B., do promise and swear, that I will support and maintain the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America."

SEC. 3. This Constitution shall not be altered or amended, unless such alteration or amendment be proposed in writing at one regular meeting of the General Grand Chapter, published among the minutes of the proceedings, and at the next regular meeting receive the approval of two-thirds of the members then present.



Proposed Amendment to Constitution.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT
TO THE CONSTITUTION.**

Amend Section 3, of Article I, by inserting in the sixth line (as published 1871) after the word "with," the words, "all Past General Grand High Priests, Past Deputy General Grand High Priests, Past General Grand Kings, and Past General Grand Scribes," and also in the eleventh line, after the words "General Grand Chapter," the following : " Provided, That no member shall be entitled to more than one vote in his own right," so that Section 3 of Article I will read, when so amended, commencing with the word "these" in the sixth line, " These, together with all Past General Grand High Priests, Past Deputy General Grand High Priests, Past General Grand Kings, Past General Grand Scribes, the first four officers, and all Past Grand High Priests of every State Grand Chapter under this jurisdiction, or the proxies of the first four General Grand Officers, and of the first four officers of each State Grand Chapter aforesaid, shall compose the General Grand Chapter ; provided, that no member shall be entitled to more than one vote in his own right, and Provided, further, That any Chapter under this jurisdiction, in any State, District, or Territory where there is no Grand Chapter duly established, shall have a right to appear by its first three officers, or any one or two of them, which officers shall collectively have one vote."

CONSTITUTION
 OF THE
M. E. . GRAND CHAPTER
 OF
ROYAL ARCH MASONS
 OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

As amended October, A. I. 2398.

Of the Organization of the Grand Chapter.

ARTICLE I.

OF ITS TITLE AND SEAL.

SECTION 1. This Grand Chapter shall be entitled "THE MOST EXCELLENT GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA," and shall have a Seal, bearing suitable devices and inscriptions, which shall be affixed to all instruments issued by or under its authority.

ARTICLE II.

OF ITS MEMBERS AND THEIR QUALIFICATIONS.

SECTION 1. This Grand Chapter shall be comprised of a Grand High Priest, a Deputy Grand High Priest, a Grand King, a Grand Scribe, a Grand Treasurer, a Grand Secretary, a Grand Chaplain, a Grand Captain of the Host, a Grand Royal Arch Captain, a Grand Guard, and such other officers as it may hereafter designate ; together with all Past Grand High Priests, Past Deputy Grand High Priests, Past Grand Kings, Past Grand Scribes, and Past High Priests, by service in this jurisdiction, and the High Priests, Kings, and Scribes of the several chartered and duly constituted Chapters, or their regularly appointed proxies.

SEC. 2. Each officer and member of the Grand Chapter must be a member of some Chapter within its jurisdiction, and with the cessation of such membership shall cease his office and membership in the Grand Chapter.

ARTICLE III.

OF ITS POWERS AND AUTHORITY.

SECTION 1. This Grand Chapter has the sole government and superintendence of all Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, and Lodges of the intermediate Degrees, in the State of California ; with authority to settle controversies that may arise between them ; to assign their limits ; to prescribe laws and regulations for their government ; and to review, confirm, or annul their decisions.

SEC. 2. It may grant dispensations and charters for holding regular Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, and may revoke, suspend, or annul the same for good cause.

SEC. 3. It may assess and collect, from the several Chapters under its jurisdiction, such sums of money, annually, as may be found necessary for its maintenance and support.

ARTICLE IV.

OF ITS CONVOICATIONS.

SECTION 1. The Grand Chapter shall hold its Annual Convoications for the transaction of its regular business, in the city of San Francisco, on the second Tuesday of April in each year, commencing at 10 o'clock, A. M.

SEC. 2. The Grand High Priest may call special convoications of the Grand Chapter whenever in his opinion the welfare of the Order shall require it.

SEC. 3. Special convoications shall be ordered by the Grand High Priest upon an application therefor in writing, setting forth the causes which demand it, and signed by the High Priests of at least five chartered Chapters.

SEC. 4. Every order for a special convoication shall designate the object thereof, so far as is proper to be written, and shall be issued to each Chapter and Grand Officer at least thirty days before the day named for meeting; and no business shall be transacted thereat other than that for which the Grand Chapter was convened.

SEC. 5. There must be at least nine chartered Chapters represented in order to transact any business in the Grand Chapter, either at an annual or a special convoication.

ARTICLE V.

OF ITS ELECTIONS.

SECTION 1. The officers of the Grand Chapter (except the Grand Chaplain and Grand Guard), shall be chosen by ballot at each annual convoication; shall be installed before the close thereof; and shall hold their respective offices until their successors are elected and installed. A majority of all the votes cast shall be necessary for a choice. The Grand Chaplain shall be appointed by the Grand High Priest.

SEC. 2. The Grand Guard shall be appointed by the Grand High Priest, immediately after his installation, at each annual convoication; shall be properly invested before the close thereof; and shall hold his office during the will and pleasure of the Grand High Priest.

SEC. 3. Any vacancy in office occurring when the Grand Chapter is not in session may be filled by the Grand High Priest, and the officer so appointed shall possess all the powers and be charged with all the duties of one regularly elected.

ARTICLE VI.

OF ITS VOTING AND REPRESENTATION.

SECTION 1. All questions in the Grand Chapter (except elections of officers) shall be decided *viva voce*, or by a show of hands, unless, before the announcement of the result thereof, three members demand that the vote be taken by yeas and nays, in which case it shall thus be taken. In all cases of a tie vote, except votes by ballot, the Grand High Priest, in addition to his proper vote, may have the casting vote.

SEC. 2. Each Grand Officer present (except the Grand Guard), and each Past Grand High Priest, Past Deputy Grand High Priest, Past Grand King, and Past Grand Scribe present, shall be entitled to one vote.

SEC. 3. Each Chapter represented shall be entitled to three votes; and the Past High Priests of each Chapter shall, collectively, be entitled to one vote.

SEC. 4. No Grand Officer, Past Grand Officer, or Past High Priest, voting, or participating in a vote, in either of those capacities, shall vote or participate in a vote in

any other of them ; but either of such members may, as High Priest, King, Scribe, or as the proxy of either or all of them, cast also the vote or votes to which such position shall entitle him.

ARTICLE VII.

OF ITS COMMITTEES.

SECTION 1. The following regular committees, to consist of not less than three nor more than five members each, shall be appointed by the Grand High Priest at each annual convocation, viz : On Credentials, on Grievances, on Finances, on New Chapters, on Returns, on By-Laws, on Jurisprudence, and on Correspondence. The two last named shall be standing committees, and shall serve during the year.

SEC. 2. Special committees may also be appointed by the Grand High Priest whenever deemed necessary by the Grand Chapter.

ARTICLE VIII.

OF ITS REVENUES.

SECTION 1. The revenue of the Grand Chapter shall be derived from fees charged for dispensations, charters, diplomas, and other instruments issued under its authority, and from contributions levied upon the Chapters, which shall always be equal and uniform, in proportion to their membership, and degrees conferred, as follows :

1st. For a dispensation to open a new Chapter, ninety dollars, of which fifteen dollars shall be the fee of the Grand Secretary ;

2d. For a charter to perpetuate a Chapter, sixty dollars, of which ten dollars shall be the fee of the Grand Secretary ;

3d. For a dispensation to hold an election for an officer or officers at a time other than that named in this Constitution, five dollars ;

4th. For a dispensation to ballot for a candidate for the degrees, without reference to a committee, five dollars ;

5th. For a diploma, five dollars, of which three dollars shall be the fee of the Grand Secretary ;

And in no case shall any of the foregoing documents be issued until the fees therefor shall have been paid to the Grand Secretary.

SEC. 2. The following contributions shall be paid as annual dues, by each of the Chapters, whether chartered or under dispensation :

1st. For each Mark Master's, Past Master's, Most Excellent Master's, and Royal Arch degree, conferred during the year, the sum of one dollar.

2d. For each Royal Arch Mason borne upon its roll, at the date of its annual return, the sum of one dollar ; and the Grand Chapter may levy, in addition to the above, such other contributions as, in its judgment, may be required.

Of the Grand Officers.

ARTICLE IX.

OF THE GRAND HIGH PRIEST.

SECTION 1. The Grand High Priest shall, at each annual convocation, present a written report of all his official acts during the year, and of the condition of Royal Arch Masonry within his jurisdiction, together with such recommendations as he shall deem conducive to the prosperity and advancement of the Order. From his decisions there shall be no appeal.

SEC. 2. He shall carefully supervise the subordinate Chapters, and see that the Constitution and Regulations of the General Grand Chapter, as well as those of this Grand Chapter, are faithfully observed.

SEC. 3. He shall have power, when the Grand Chapter is not in session—

1st. To issue dispensations for the formation of new Chapters ;

2d. To issue dispensations for the election of an officer or officers of a Chapter at a time other than that named in this Constitution ;

3d. To issue dispensations to ballot for a candidate for the degrees without reference to a committee ;

4th. To convene any Chapter within his jurisdiction, preside therein, inspect its proceedings, and give such orders and instructions as he may deem necessary ;

5th. To arrest the charter or dispensation of any Chapter, for good reasons shown, and, for proper cause, to suspend any High Priest from the functions of his office until the ensuing annual convocation.

SEC. 4. He shall constitute, either in person or by proxy, all newly chartered Chapters, and install their officers.

ARTICLE X.

OF THE DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIEST.

SECTION 1. The Deputy Grand High Priest shall have power, during the recess of the Grand Chapter, to grant dispensations for the formation of new Chapters.

SEC. 2. In the event of the death of the Grand High Priest, or of his absence from the State, or of his inability, from any cause, to perform the functions of his office, the Deputy Grand High Priest shall succeed to and be charged with all his powers and duties.

ARTICLE XI.

OF THE GRAND KING AND GRAND SCRIBE.

SECTION 1. The Grand King and Grand Scribe, in the event of the death, absence from the State, or inability, as before, of both their superiors, shall, in the order of their rank, succeed to and be charged with all the powers and duties of the Grand High Priest.

SEC. 2. In case all the four principal Grand Officers shall be absent from any convocation, the Past Grand Officers of like rank shall, in the order of their rank and seniority, be empowered to preside ; and in the event of the absence of all the Grand and Past Grand Officers, the High Priest of the oldest Chapter represented shall take charge.

ARTICLE XII.

OF THE GRAND TREASURER.

SECTION 1. The Grand Treasurer shall receive all moneys belonging to the Grand Chapter from the Grand Secretary, and shall pay the same out under such regulations as may by it be provided. He shall keep a just account thereof in proper books, and at each annual convocation shall present a detailed statement of his receipts and disbursements, together with proper vouchers for the latter, and a full statement of the existing condition of the finances.

SEC. 2. He shall execute and file with the Grand High Priest, within fifteen days after his installation, a bond, in such penal sum, and with such sureties, as shall be approved by that officer, conditioned that he will faithfully discharge his duties, and at the end of his term of office, pay over and transfer to his successor all funds or property of the Grand Chapter which shall have come into his keeping.

ARTICLE XIII.

OF THE GRAND SECRETARY.

SECTION 1. It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to record all the transactions of the Grand Chapter which it is proper to have written, and to superintend the publication thereof immediately after the close of each annual convocation. He shall receive, duly file, and safely keep all papers and documents addressed or belonging to the Grand Chapter, and present such as may require its action, at each convocation. He shall keep the seal of the Grand Chapter, and affix the same with

his attestation to all documents emanating from that body. He shall collect the revenue of the Grand Chapter, pay it over to the Grand Treasurer, and present a detailed report of his receipts and of all business appertaining to his office, at each annual convocation. He shall report at each annual convocation all Chapters which are in arrears to the Grand Chapter, or which shall have neglected or refused to comply with any provision of its Constitution or Regulations. He shall conduct the correspondence of the Grand Chapter, and submit copies thereof at each annual convocation. He shall take charge of the jewels, furniture, clothing, and paraphernalia of the Grand Chapter during its vacations. He shall report at each annual convocation all unfinished business, and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned him by the Grand Chapter or Grand High Priest.

SEC. 2. He shall receive such compensation for his services as the Grand Chapter may direct, and shall execute and file with the Grand High Priest, within fifteen days after his installation, a bond, in such penal sum, and with such sureties, as shall be approved by that officer, conditioned that he will faithfully discharge the duties of his office, as prescribed in this Constitution.

Relative to Subordinate Chapters.

ARTICLE XIV.

OF THEIR FORMATION.

SECTION 1. Upon the petition of nine or more Royal Arch Masons in good standing, the Grand Chapter, Grand High Priest, or Deputy Grand High Priest, may issue a Letter of Dispensation authorizing them to form and open a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons and Lodges of the intermediate Degrees, with power to confer the several degrees thereof and receive members by affiliation. But no such dispensation shall issue, unless the petition be accompanied by a recommendation from the chartered Chapter nearest the location of the proposed new one, which shall certify to the good standing of each of the petitioners, and that a suitable place of meeting has been provided; and by a certificate from the Grand Lecturer (if there be one), or from a High Priest whom the Grand High Priest is satisfied is well skilled in the Royal Art, declaring that the High Priest proposed in such petition is qualified to properly confer all the Chapter degrees and deliver the lectures thereunto appertaining; nor unless the petition shall also be accompanied by a certificate of withdrawal of each petitioner from the Chapter of which he was last a member. Such dispensation shall terminate on the first day of the month in which the next succeeding annual convocation shall be holden, and then shall be returned to the Grand Secretary, together with the book of records, by-laws, and returns to that date, when, if the transactions of the new Chapter shall appear satisfactory to the Grand Chapter, it may, upon petition therefor, receive a charter.

SEC. 2. A Chapter shall consist of a High Priest, a King, a Scribe, a Captain of the Host, a Principal Sojourner, a Royal Arch Captain, three Masters of the Vails, a Treasurer, a Secretary, a Guard, and such other officers as its by-laws may provide, together with as many members as it may find convenient.

ARTICLE XV.

OF THEIR DUTIES.

SECTION 1. Each Chapter shall have a stated meeting at least once in every month for the transaction of its regular business. Special meetings may be ordered by the Chapter, or by the High Priest, but no business shall be done thereat, except collections or appropriations for charity, or conferring of degrees. All business, except the conferring of degrees, shall be done in a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

SEC. 2. Each chartered and duly constituted Chapter shall be represented in the Grand Chapter at every convocation by one or more of its proper officers, or by his or their proxies; but such proxy or proxies shall be members of such Chapter.

SEC. 3. Each chartered Chapter shall transmit to the Grand Secretary a full and correct return of its transactions for the twelve months next preceding the first day of February in each year, within fifteen days thereafter, in the form hereinafter provided, and shall accompany such return with payment of its dues to the Grand Chapter.

SEC. 4. Each Chapter shall transmit to the Grand Secretary a copy of its by-laws, as soon as adopted, but no such by-laws, nor any subsequent amendment thereunto, shall be deemed valid until approved by the Grand Chapter, though they may be acted under until the next annual convocation, if approved by the Grand High Priest.

SEC. 5. Each chartered Chapter shall, within three months from the date of its charter, provide a suitable seal, bearing such devices as may be deemed proper, and having inscribed thereon the name and number of the Chapter, the date of its charter, and the place of its location, and all documents and papers emanating from such Chapter, or from its High Priest, or Secretary, in his official capacity, shall bear the impress of such seal, or be considered null and of no effect.

ARTICLE XVI.

OF THEIR ELECTIONS.

SECTION 1. The officers of each Chapter (except the Guard, who shall be appointed by the High Priest) shall be chosen by ballot, at the stated meeting next preceding the Anniversary of St. John the Evangelist; shall be installed as soon thereafter as practicable, and shall hold their respective offices until their successors shall have been duly elected and installed. A majority of all the votes cast shall be necessary for a choice.

SEC. 2. In case any Chapter shall fail to hold such election at the time above specified, upon good cause being shown therefor, the Grand High Priest may issue a dispensation to hold such election at another time; and in case a vacancy shall at any time occur in either of the offices of High Priest, King, or Scribe in any Chapter, upon proper representation of the necessity therefor, the Grand High Priest may issue a dispensation to hold such election at another time; and in case a vacancy shall at any time occur in either of the offices of High Priest, King, or Scribe, in any Chapter, upon proper representation of the necessity therefor, the Grand High Priest may issue a dispensation to fill such vacancy. But, in either of these cases, such dispensation shall be issued only upon the application of the Chapter, setting forth the reasons therefor, to be approved by two-thirds of the members present at a stated meeting, and to be properly certified by the Secretary; and of the special election which may thus be ordered the members shall have due notice.

SEC. 3. Every member in good standing, and whose dues are paid, shall be entitled to vote at all elections; and every voter shall be eligible to any office in the Chapter.

ARTICLE XVII.

OF PROHIBITIONS.

SECTION 1. No Chapter in this State shall receive an application for the degrees unless the applicant shall have resided within its jurisdiction during six months next preceding the date of his application, except by permission of the Chapter nearest his place of residence; nor shall the application of a rejected candidate for the degrees be presented to any Chapter within six months after such rejection, without the unanimous consent of the Chapter in which he was rejected. All such applications, as well as those for affiliation, shall be in writing, signed by the applicant, and recommended by at least two members of the Chapter.

SEC. 2. No Chapter shall ballot upon such application (except by dispensation from the Grand High Priest), until it shall have been referred to a committee, whose duty it shall be to make strict examination into the qualifications of the applicant, and to report thereon at the next stated meeting, unless further time be granted.

No application shall be withdrawn after reference to a committee, and it shall require a unanimous ballot to elect. But if one black ball only appear in the ballot-box, the High Priest, without declaring the result, may order a second ballot, for the purpose of correcting a possible mistake, when, if a black ball again be cast, the applicant shall be declared rejected.

SEC. 3. No dispensation shall be issued to a Chapter to ballot for a candidate for the degrees without the reference of his petition to a committee, as before, unless application therefor be made by a majority of the Council thereof, and of the issue of such dispensation and its purpose the members of the Chapter shall have due notice.

SEC. 4. No Chapter shall receive a petition for the degrees, or for membership, unless the applicant therefor is a Master Mason, in good standing; nor shall an application for affiliation be received unless it be accompanied by a certificate of dismissal from the Chapter of which the applicant was last a member, or a satisfactory explanation, in writing, of the inability to furnish such certificate.

SEC. 5. No Chapter shall confer the degrees for a less sum than fifty dollars, and in every case the fee for each, or all of the degrees, as may be regulated by the Chapter, shall accompany the application.

SEC. 6. No Chapter shall expel a member for the non-payment of his dues, but any member who shall be six months in arrears therefor, shall be immediately notified thereof by the Secretary, and if the said dues shall not be paid at or before the next stated meeting, or some sufficient reason be presented for such non payment, he shall be suspended from all the rights and privileges of Royal Arch Masonry. Any member thus suspended, who shall at any time thereafter pay the arrearages due at the time of his suspension, together with such further dues as would, had he retained his membership, have accrued against him, to the date of such payment, shall by that act be restored.

SEC. 7. No Chapters shall receive lectures from any person who is not duly authorized by the Grand Chapter, or Grand High Priest.

SEC. 8. No Chapter which shall have failed to make its annual returns shall be entitled to representation at the next annual convocation of the Grand Chapter.

SEC. 9. No person shall be admitted, either as a member or a visitor in any Chapter, unless he shall have regularly received the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, Master Mason, Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and the Royal Arch, in just and legally constituted bodies of such.

SEC. 10. No Chapter, until chartered and duly constituted, shall be entitled to representation in this Grand Chapter; but a Chapter under dispensation may send delegates thereto, who may be admitted to seats and be permitted to speak, but shall have no vote.

SEC. 11. No Chapter of Royal Arch Masons within this jurisdiction shall be considered legal without a dispensation or charter from this Grand Chapter, and no Masonic communication shall be held with any such Chapter, or with any person who is a member thereof, or has received the degrees therein.

ARTICLE XVIII.

OF THE DISSOLUTION OF CHAPTERS.

SECTION 1. The charter of a Chapter may be surrendered if notice shall be given at a stated meeting that a resolution to that effect will be presented at the next succeeding one; and if, at such succeeding meeting, there shall not be nine members present who oppose such resolution, it may be surrendered if it shall be so ordered by a majority of those assembled, but no such act of surrender shall be considered final until it shall have been approved and accepted by the Grand Chapter.

SEC. 2. The charter of a Chapter may be forfeited—

1st. By disobedience to any provision of the Constitution or Regulations of this Grand Chapter or the General Grand Chapter ;

- 2d. By disregard to the lawful authority of the Grand High Priest ;
- 3d. By violation or neglect of the ancient and recognized usages of the Craft ;
- 4th. By failure to meet during a period of six successive months ; or
- 5th. By the reduction of its members to a less number than nine.

SEC. 3. In case of the dissolution of a Chapter the Grand Secretary, or some companion by him duly authorized, shall at once proceed to receive its funds on hand, collect its outstanding dues, and dispose of its jewels, furniture, and property of every kind, in such manner as shall seem to him most judicious : and he shall place the proceeds thereof, after the payment of necessary expenses, among the funds of the Grand Chapter.

ARTICLE XIX.

OF THE OFFICERS OF CHAPTERS.

SECTION 1. Each High Priest has it in special charge to see that the By Laws of his Chapter, and the Constitution and Regulations of the Grand Chapter, as well as those of the General Grand Chapter, are duly observed ; that accurate records are kept, and just accounts and proper reports rendered by his officers ; and that regular returns are annually made to the Grand Chapter at the time prescribed therefor, with prompt payment of the annual dues. From his decisions there shall be no appeal to the Chapter, but any five members thereof may complain of his decisions or conduct to the Grand Chapter or Grand High Priest. In all cases of a tie vote, except votes by ballot, the High Priest, in addition to his proper vote, may have the casting vote.

SEC. 2. The King and Scribe shall perform the duties severally assigned them by the traditional usages of the Order ; and, in the absence of the High Priest, shall, in the order of their rank, succeed to and be charged with all his powers and duties.

SEC. 3. The Treasurer shall receive from the Secretary all moneys belonging to the Chapter, and shall pay the same out under such regulations, and account therefor, at such times and in such manner as may by it be prescribed.

SEC. 4. The Secretary shall keep an accurate record of all the transactions of the Chapter, which should be written, including a list of the officers and members present at each Assembly ; shall collect the revenue, and pay it over to the Treasurer ; shall keep correct accounts of the dues of members ; shall prepare and transmit the annual returns to the Grand Secretary ; shall keep the seal of the Chapter, and affix it to all documents emanating therefrom ; and shall perform such other duties as may be required of him by the Chapter or the High Priest.

SEC. 5. The other officers shall perform such duties as traditionally appertain to their respective stations, or as may be assigned them by the Chapter or the High Priest.

ARTICLE XX.

OF MEMBERSHIP.

SECTION 1. Membership in a Chapter may be acquired by having regularly received the degree of Royal Arch Mason therein ; by having been duly elected for affiliation therewith ; or, by having been named, in a dispensation for a new Chapter, as one of the petitioners therefor.

SEC. 2. No Royal Arch Mason shall be a member of more than one Chapter at a time.

SEC. 3. Membership in a Chapter can only be terminated by voluntary withdrawal therefrom ; by the dissolution of the Chapter ; or, by death, suspension, or expulsion.

SEC. 4. A member of a Chapter may withdraw therefrom, unless charges are pending against him, by paying his dues, and notifying the Chapter of such intention at any stated meeting ; but no recommendatory certificate shall be issued, unless ordered by a majority of the members present.

SEC. 5. No member of a Chapter shall be required to divulge his vote upon a ballot for the degrees or for affiliation ; nor to assign reasons for such vote, if it be known.

Of Trials, Appeals, and Penalties.

ARTICLE XXI.

RELATIVE TO THE GRAND HIGH PRIEST.

SECTION 1. Charges may be preferred against the Grand High Priest for abuse of his power, violation of the Constitution or Regulations of the Grand Chapter or other unmasonic conduct, by any five High Priests of Chapters ; which charges shall be in writing, over their signatures, and shall be presented to the last Past Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter who may be within the State, and who is a member of a Chapter within its jurisdiction.

SEC. 2. Upon the presentation of such charges, it shall be the duty of such Past Grand High Priest to transmit a copy thereof to the accused, if within the State, at least thirty days, and if without the State, at least ninety days, before the time designated for the trial, together with a notification to attend at such time, and at the place he may therein name, which shall be one most convenient for the parties ; and he shall also summon four or more other Past Grand High Priests of this State, who shall be members of Chapters therein, to assemble with him at the time and place designated, and shall notify the accused thereof.

SEC. 3. The tribunal thus assembled, or any of its members, shall have power to summon witnesses at the request of either party ; it shall receive such testimony as in its judgment shall be proper, and shall determine finally upon the guilt or innocence of the accused ; and the opinion of the majority shall be the judgment of the tribunal, and shall be final.

SEC. 4. The only penalty inflicted shall be deprivation of office ; but, when thus deprived, the adjudged may be amenable to his Chapter upon a charge of unmasonic conduct.

SEC. 5. The Grand Secretary shall attend at the trial to keep a record of the proceedings and of the judgment, which shall be filed in his office, and shall be presented at the next annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter.

SEC. 6. All necessary traveling expenses of the members of such tribunal shall be paid by the Grand Chapter.

ARTICLE XXII.

RELATIVE TO HIGH PRIESTS OF CHAPTERS.

SECTION 1. Charges may be preferred against the High Priest of a Chapter for abuse of his power, violation of the Constitution or Regulations, or for unmasonic conduct of any kind, by any five Royal Arch Masons in good standing ; which charges shall be in writing, over their signatures, and shall be presented to the Grand Chapter, if in session, or to the Grand High Priest during the vacation.

SEC. 2. Upon the presentation of such charges, the Grand Chapter, or the Grand High Priest, as the case may be, may at once appoint and summon not less than three nor more than seven disinterested High Priests, to assemble as Commissioners to hear and determine thereupon ; and shall then summon the accused to appear and answer thereunto, at such time and place most convenient for the parties as shall be indicated in said summons ; giving him, if within the jurisdiction of his Chapter, at least ten days—if without that jurisdiction and within the State at least thirty days—and if without the State, at least ninety days—to answer thereunto ; and transmitting to him also a copy of the charges.

SEC. 3. The Commissioners thus assembled shall choose one of their number to preside ; and they, or any of them, shall have power to summon witnesses, at the request of either party. The witnesses, if Masons, shall testify, upon their honor, as

such; if not, their deposition shall be taken, in writing, before an officer legally authorized to administer oaths; and, in such case, the party requiring such depositions, shall notify the other of the time and place when and where they will be taken, that he may, if he choose, be present thereat.

SEC. 4. The Commissioners may adjourn from time to time, at their own convenience, or for good cause shown by either party; provided, that the period within which their duties shall be concluded shall not exceed ten days, unless, for sufficient reasons, the Grand High Priest shall grant them further time.

SEC. 5. The opinion of a majority of the Commissioners shall be deemed the judgment of the whole, and shall be conclusive, unless an appeal be taken at the next annual convocation of the Grand Chapter.

SEC. 6. The penalties which may be inflicted by such Commissioners may be either deprivation of office, suspension, or expulsion, as in their judgment shall be deemed proper.

SEC. 7. The Commissioners shall keep a complete record of their proceedings and of their judgment, and shall transmit the same to the Grand Secretary, at the conclusion of the trial; and the judgment shall at once be carried into effect by order of the Grand High Priest.

SEC. 8. An appeal to the Grand Chapter may be taken at its next annual convocation, by either party, if notice thereof be given to the Grand Secretary within thirty days after the conclusion of the trial.

ARTICLE XXIII.

RELATIVE TO CHAPTERS AND MEMBERS OF DIFFERENT CHAPTERS.

SECTION 1. When a controversy shall arise between Chapters, or between a Chapter and a member or members of another Chapter, charges may be preferred by either party, if in good standing; which charges shall be in writing and shall be presented to the Grand Chapter, or Grand High Priest, as provided in Sec. 1, Art. XXII.

SEC. 2. Upon the presentation of such charges not less than five nor more than seven Commissioners shall be appointed and summoned, as provided in Sec. 2, Art. XXII, which Commissioners shall be High Priests, Kings, or Scribes, and shall be selected from at least three different Chapters not interested in the controversy, and most convenient to the parties; and the accused party shall be summoned, with such time to answer as provided in the section and article last quoted.

SEC. 3. The Commissioners shall have power to proceed, and shall keep a record of their proceedings and judgment in the same manner as provided in Sec. 7, Art. XXII, and the penalties which they may inflict may be any known to Masonic usage; or, if the case be not one involving a violation of Masonic duty, the decision may be such special one as the circumstances shall, in their judgment, warrant.

SEC. 4. An appeal may be taken by either party to the Grand Chapter, as provided in Sec. 8, Art. XXII.

ARTICLE XXIV.

RELATIVE TO ROYAL ARCH MASONS INDIVIDUALLY.

SECTION 1. When any member of a Chapter (except its High Priest or the Grand High Priest), or any Royal Arch Mason residing within its jurisdiction, shall be accused of unmasonic conduct, charges to that effect may be preferred by any Royal Arch Mason in good standing; which charges shall be in writing, over his signature, and shall be presented to the High Priest of the Chapter having jurisdiction thereof.

SEC. 2. Upon the presentation of such charges it shall be the duty of the High Priest, by due notification, to call a special meeting of his Chapter as soon as practicable, and there cause to be elected, by ballot, and by a majority of those present, not less than seven nor more than nine of its members, who shall assemble as Commissioners, to hear and determine thereupon, at such time and place, convenient to

the parties, as he shall indicate ; and he shall also summon the accused to appear and answer thereunto at such time and place ; and shall, at the same time, cause the Secretary to furnish him with a copy of the charges, and to notify the accuser of the said time and place of trial.

Sec. 3. If the accused be within the jurisdiction of the Chapter, the summons and copy of the charges shall be issued at least ten days prior to the day appointed for the trial, and shall be served personally by the Guard, or shall be left at his ordinary residence or place of business. If he be without the said jurisdiction, but within the State, and his residence be known, they shall be issued at least thirty days before the day of trial, and shall be forwarded to his address by the Secretary, by mail or other usual mode of conveyance, which shall be deemed sufficient service. If he be without the State and his residence be known, they shall be issued at least ninety days before the trial, and shall be forwarded to his address by the Secretary, as before provided, which shall be sufficient service. If his address is unknown, the High Priest shall order the trial to proceed at once upon the testimony, *ex parte*.

Sec. 4. The Commissioners shall assemble at the time and place appointed, and shall choose one of their number to preside ; and the Secretary, by order of the High Priest, shall attend them to keep a full and correct record of the proceedings, and of the judgment, under their supervision.

Sec. 5. The High Priest shall summon such witnesses within the jurisdiction of his Chapter, as may be desired by either party, and the accused may select any brother in good standing to assist him in his defence. The witnesses, if Masons, shall testify on their honor as such ; if not, their depositions shall be taken in writing, before an officer legally authorized to administer oaths, and, in such case, the party requiring such depositions shall notify the other of the time and place when and where they will be taken, that he may, if he choose, be present thereat.

Sec. 6. The Commissioners may adjourn from time to time, at their own convenience, or for sufficient cause shown by either party ; provided that the period within which their duties shall be concluded shall not exceed ten days, unless, for good reasons shown, the High Priest shall grant them further time.

Sec. 7. After all the testimony shall have been received, the Commissioners shall proceed to deliberate upon their verdict and sentence, with none present save themselves and the Secretary, which last shall have no voice in the proceedings. The judgment of a majority of the Commissioners shall be taken as the decision of the whole ; and when the trial is concluded the Secretary shall make a fair copy of the record and finding, under their supervision, which shall be signed by the chairman of such Commission, and attested by the Secretary, and shall be presented to the High Priest, who, at the next meeting of his Chapter, shall, in the presence of its members only, announce the result, and direct the Secretary to record the same as the judgment of the Chapter, and file the record for safe keeping among its archives.

Sec. 8. The penalties which may be inflicted are reprimand in open Chapter, suspension, or expulsion. If the sentence be reprimand, the High Priest shall summon the adjudged to appear at the next stated meeting, when it shall be carried into effect, in the presence only of members of the Chapter. If it be suspension or expulsion, it shall at once go into effect, and the Secretary shall immediately notify the Grand Secretary thereof ; and it shall be final and conclusive, unless an appeal be taken to the Grand Chapter.

Sec. 9. An appeal may be taken to the Grand Chapter by either party at its next succeeding annual convocation, but not unless a notice of such intended appeal shall be given to the High Priest within thirty days after his announcement of the result of the trial ; and in all cases of expulsion or suspension, the High Priest shall cause the Secretary to prepare a transcript of the record of trial, and immediately transmit it to the Grand Secretary, together with information of the appeal intended, if any there be.

ARTICLE XXV.

OF REVISIONS AND RESTORATIONS.

SECTION 1. All judgment from which an appeal may be taken as hereinbefore provided, shall be reviewed in the Grand Chapter, or before a committee thereof, during its session, upon the record sent up, and upon such other proper documents as may be submitted; and its decision shall be final and conclusive.

SEC. 2. All sentences of suspension shall be for an indefinite period; and a Chapter may, at any stated meeting, by the votes of two-thirds of the members present, annul any such sentence of suspension pronounced by itself, and restore the Mason thus suspended to all his Masonic rights; provided that notice of a resolution for such restoration shall have been given at the stated meeting next preceding. And in case of such restoration, the Secretary shall at once notify the Grand Secretary thereof.

SEC. 3. The Grand Chapter may, at any annual convocation, if good cause therefor be shown, restore a Mason who has been suspended or expelled within its jurisdiction; but such restoration shall not restore him to membership in the Chapter by which he was suspended or expelled.

SEC. 4. No suspension, expulsion, or restoration shall be published otherwise than as hereinbefore provided, except by authority of the Grand Chapter, or by order of the Grand High Priest.

Of Amendments and Obligations of Office.

ARTICLE XXVI.

OF AMENDMENTS.

SECTION 1. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any annual convocation of the Grand Chapter by a vote of two-thirds of the members present; but no alteration or amendment shall be acted upon until after its reference to the Committee on Jurisprudence, who shall report thereon as soon as practicable.

ARTICLE XXVII.

OF OBLIGATIONS OF OFFICE.

SECTION 1. All officers of the Grand Chapter and of its subordinates, before entering upon the duties of their respective stations, shall take a solemn obligation that they will maintain and support the Constitution and Regulations of the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America, and of the Grand Chapter of the State of California.

GENERAL REGULATIONS.

1. The Degree of Past Master must be conferred upon all candidates who have previously had the degree conferred upon them in a convocation of Past Masters, by virtue of an election to preside over a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.

2. All the Chapters under this jurisdiction are required, in the conferring of degrees, to conform to the ritual adopted by the Grand Chapter, at its Special Convocation, in September, 1855.

3. Every Mark Master attached to a Chapter under this jurisdiction must, within six months after his admission, select his mark, and record the same in a Book of Marks, kept by the Chapter for that purpose, and it is made the special duty of the Secretary of each Chapter to see that this regulation is complied with.

4. The term "nearest Chapter," used in the Constitution, means the nearest by geographical measurement.

5. No Masonic communication shall be held with a Royal Arch Mason who stands suspended as a Master Mason, for any cause.

6. Each Chapter under this jurisdiction shall pay, in addition to its annual dues, the sum of one dollar for each Royal Arch Mason borne upon its roll at the date of its annual report, which additional assessment shall be used as a fund to defray the actual expenses of one delegate from each Chapter represented at the annual convocations of the Grand Chapter, the same to be apportioned by a special committee appointed for that purpose.

7. Whenever two or more Chapters exist in any city or town within this jurisdiction, it shall be the duty of each of such Chapters to notify the other or others existing in the same place of all applications presented to it for the degrees.

8. That the Grand High Priest be requested to appoint a Grand Lecturer, who will be authorized to teach and instruct the subordinate Chapters in conformity with the ritual adopted by this Grand Chapter at its Special Convocation in September, 1855.

9. When, after an election of an applicant to receive the Chapter degrees, and he has received the Mark Degree, an objection to his advancement is made at any time by a member, such objection shall be referred to a committee, with power to inquire into the cause thereof, who shall at the next stated meeting (unless further time be given) report thereon; and upon the reception of such report, if no cause for the objection has been assigned, or if the cause assigned be, in the opinion of two-thirds of the members present, not a valid and Masonic one, the Chapter may confer the degree in the same manner as if no objection had been made.

10. No petition for the degrees, or application for membership, shall be received by any Chapter within this jurisdiction, unless it be signed with the full name or names of the petitioner or applicant; and, in the annual reports of the subordinate Chapters, the given name or names of every member or others upon their rolls, shall be given in full.

11. The provisions of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of the State of California shall be, in all essential respects, where there is no conflict between it and the Constitution of this Grand Chapter, the rules and regulations by which the action of the subordinate Chapters of this jurisdiction shall be governed.

GENERAL REGULATIONS.

1. The Degree of Past Master must be conferred upon all candidates who have previously had the degree conferred upon them in a convocation of Past Masters, by virtue of an election to preside over a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.

2. All the Chapters under this jurisdiction are required, in the conferring of degrees, to conform to the ritual adopted by the Grand Chapter, at its Special Convocation, in September, 1855.

3. Every Mark Master attached to a Chapter under this jurisdiction must, within six months after his admission, select his mark, and record the same in a Book of Marks, kept by the Chapter for that purpose, and it is made the special duty of the Secretary of each Chapter to see that this regulation is complied with.

4. The term "nearest Chapter," used in the Constitution, means the nearest by geographical measurement.

5. No Masonic communication shall be held with a Royal Arch Mason who stands suspended as a Master Mason, for any cause.

6. Each Chapter under this jurisdiction shall pay, in addition to its annual dues, the sum of one dollar for each Royal Arch Mason borne upon its roll at the date of its annual report, which additional assessment shall be used as a fund to defray the actual expenses of one delegate from each Chapter represented at the annual convocations of the Grand Chapter, the same to be apportioned by a special committee appointed for that purpose.

7. Whenever two or more Chapters exist in any city or town within this jurisdiction, it shall be the duty of each of such Chapters to notify the other or others existing in the same place of all applications presented to it for the degrees.

8. That the Grand High Priest be requested to appoint a Grand Lecturer, who will be authorized to teach and instruct the subordinate Chapters in conformity with the ritual adopted by this Grand Chapter at its Special Convocation in September, 1855.

9. When, after an election of an applicant to receive the Chapter degrees, and he has received the Mark Degree, an objection to his advancement is made at any time by a member, such objection shall be referred to a committee, with power to inquire into the cause thereof, who shall at the next stated meeting (unless further time be given) report thereon; and upon the reception of such report, if no cause for the objection has been assigned, or if the cause assigned be, in the opinion of two-thirds of the members present, not a valid and Masonic one, the Chapter may confer the degree in the same manner as if no objection had been made.

RETURNS
OF THE
SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS
UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE
Grand Chapter of California,
A. I. 2402.

SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER, No. 1.

San Francisco, San Francisco County.

Stated Meetings, first and third Mondays in each month.

OFFICERS :

Theodore Edward Smith, <i>High Priest</i> ,	Henry Williams, <i>Master of 3d Vail</i> ,
Henry Jameson Burns, <i>King</i> ,	Ed. Taylor Anthony, <i>Master of 2d Vail</i> ,
Samuel Sternheim, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Sharon Pratt Doane, <i>Master of 1st Vail</i> ,
Charles Angel Fuentes, <i>Capt. of the Host</i> ,	Joseph Clement, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Simon Baum, <i>Principal Sojourner</i> ,	Henry Lyon Cohen, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Arpad Harazthy, <i>Royal Arch Captain</i> ,	Ira Colburn Root,* <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests :

John Dunbar Creigh,	Martin John Burke,	Stewart Menzies,
Adolphus Hollub,	John Rudolphe Jarboe.	Theodore Edward Smith.
Louis Cohn,	Milton Hills Myrick,	

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Anderson, Thomas	Cohen, Martin	Fried, Ignatius S.
Ballentine, James	Cressy, Albert	Friedberg, Morris
Bergson, Ole	Curry, Nathaniel	Friedlander, Moritz
Blum, Isidor	Caro, Samuel	Fuller, Andrew
Boch, Rudolph	Davis, Henry Lamen	Gay, John Gilmore
Browell, Jeremiah	Eisenberg, Julius	Gerhow, Frederick
Bryan, William	Esberg, Mendel	Haight, Henry Huntley
Berggren, August	Emanuel, Emanuel	Herzo, John
Bilty, Theodore George	Elles, August Wm. Herman	Heald, Charles Byron
Behrendt, Herman	Farquharson, David	Hyman, Henry Wolf
Carpenter, Augustine Dyer	Fisher, Henry James	Harris, Daniel
Craig, James	Foorman, Samuel	Hiller, Frederick
Craig, Peter	Franz, Bernhard	Jacoby, Augustus

* Member of California Chapter, No. 5.

Jordan, Dennis	Newman, Isaac	Sweet, Solomon
Kehoe, John	Parker, Charles Hubbard	Stuart, William Adams
Kenitzer, Henry	Platshek, Samuel	Schmidt, Anton
Kittredge, Jonathan	Prag, Martin	Treat, George
Kline, Lazarus	Pearson, Henry Haven	Triest, Bernard
Kohn, Isaac	Rawson, Julius Addison	Voight, Christian H.
Kirby, John Timothy	Robinson, Cornel's Preston	Walton, Nelson Collins
Laronche, Antoine	Robitscheck, Herman	Wasserman, August
Levy, Jacob	Rosenbaum, Joseph	Weid, Evan A.
Meyer, Charles	Rosenbaum, Julius	Whiting, Manassah S.
Michaels, Aaron W.	Rosenbaum, Moses	Wood, Andrew Bunker
Mitchell, David	Saulman, August	Wolf, David
Moraghan, Michael John	Sawyer, Lorenzo	Woolley, Lell Hawley
McDonald, Robert	Schweitzer, Samuel	Wormser, Isidor
Mohrhardt, Philip Fred'k	Schweitzer, John	Wormser, Louis
Newhall, Henry Mayo	Solomon, Albert	Zinn, Henry—105.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS :

Bosworth, Henry Martyn Dreyfous, Benjamin Edwards, Henry —3.

WITHDRAWN :

Bloomington, Emanuel Gowenlock, Robert Middleton, John—3.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Corbett, Alexander Charles Cohn, Morris Wass, Samuel C.—4.
Casey, Thomas

EXCLUDED :

Owen, Lawrence Conly—1.

RESTORED :

Hull, George S.—1.

DIED :

Peck, Lewis—1.

SONORA CHAPTER, No. 2.

Sonora, Tuolumne County.

Stated Meetings, Wednesday of or next preceding Full Moon.

OFFICERS :

Stephen Wing, <i>High Priest,</i>	Eli Griffith Bacon, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Alvin Bacon Preston, <i>King,</i>	Solomon Benas, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Edwin Aldrich Rodgers, <i>Scribe,</i>	Edmond Parsons, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Peter Klein, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Charles Edward Lang, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Gideon Wing, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	William Henry Ryan, <i>Secretary,</i>
Henry Dose, <i>Royal Arch Captain.</i>	Edward Skinner, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Francis Anthony Prassa,	Stephen Wing, (<i>Grand King.</i>)
Alvin Bacon Preston,	Edward Skinner,
Isaac Newton McCulloch,	William Henry Ryan,
Frederick Faxon,	Eli Griffith Bacon.
William Davis Newton,	

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Andross, Moses Chamberl'n	Harris, Charles Parsons	Oppenheimer, Benjamin
Bacon, Martin	Hill, Edmund th Arthur	Patterson, Archbald
Barlow, Abraham	Johnson, William	Ripperdan, Isaac
Bartlett, Daniel Francis	Keil, Edward	Reed, Abner
Bell, Andrew N.	Kaufman, Morris	Rudorff, William Gustave
Bell, James	Klein, Conrad	Schuler, Henry
Bush, George Carrol	Lampson, Royal Mills	Sharrock, Evrard
Byrd, Francis Jahew	Mann, John Christian	Thurman, William H.
Colby, Alonzo	McFarland, Matthias	White, Moses Henry
Carter, John Beach	Mundorf, John	Winne, George
Cleaveland, Septimus Allin	Mayer, Willis	Wade, Charles Frederick
Calhoun, Henry Clay	Mitchell, Fred'k Francis	Yancy, Tyron Milton—54.
Doxey, Beverly M.		

RESTORED :

Cleaveland, Septimus Allin

Jordan, Frank—2.

WITHDRAWN :

Jackson, John Robert Scott

Jordan, Frank—2.

DIED :

Knox, John—1.

SACRAMENTO CHAPTER, No. 3.**Sacramento, Sacramento County.***Stated Meetings, first Tuesday in each month.***OFFICERS :**

Powell Samuel Lawson, <i>High Priest</i> ,	Wm Buckley Davis, <i>Master of 3d Vail</i> ,
Isaac Baldwin Cooledge, <i>King</i> ,	Hilliard P. Cottingham, <i>Master of 2d Vail</i> ,
William Munroe Petrie, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Alb't Leander Bragg <i>Master of 1st Vail</i> ,
John Austin Cunningham, <i>Capt. of the Host</i> ,	Henry Wm. Bragg, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
William Smith Hunt, <i>Principal Sojourner</i> ,	Samuel Sims, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Hiram Cook, <i>Royal Arch Captain</i> ,	Peter Zacharias, <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests :James Lawrence English,
William Franklin Knox,Francis Foster,
George Howard Winterburn.**ROYAL ARCH MASONS :**

Allen, John Francis	Bronner, George Fred'k	Crocker, Henry Smith
Allen, Robert	Bryding, Peter	Dale, Richard
Anthony, James	Budd, Henry	Davis, Jacob Zeigler
Alexander, Benj. Franklin	Bugbey, Benj. Norton	Davis, William Oliver
Baker, Thomas	Byington, Ira Weeks	Day, James Thompson
Barnes, Jacob	Callaghan, Daniel E.	Dennery, Bernard
Banquier, Joseph	Champlin, Nelson	Domingos, John
Bergevin, Nelson Langevin	Christy, Edward	Drew, Nathaniel Lafayette
Booth, Lucius A.	Clinness, William R.	Duprey, George
Brewington, Benjamin S.	Cohn, Charles	Karl, George
Bromley, George Tisdale	Conover, John	Ecklon, Christian Ludwig

Egl, Anthony	Kay, Samuel	Redington, Alfred Augustus
English, William Garrison	Kercheval, Reuben	Robertson, John
Feldheim, Nathan G.	Kimball, Gorham Gates	Robinson, Robert
Feneuf, E. F.	King, Cameron Hight	Ross, Charles Henry
Forbes, Robert	Kinsey, Kerst	Rothermel, Chas. Nicholas
Foye, Wm. Robinson Smith	Lavenson, Samuel	Sawyer, James Canney
Frank, Samuel	Levy, Edward Roger	Shirland, Edmond Dana
Gates, Justin	Locke, George Washington	Silverstein, Marcus
Gillis, Dougald	Lyon, Edward	Smith, Hiram Abiff
Golden, Thomas	Maholm, James Bowland	Smith, Joshua Hughes
Goldberg, H.	Maier, Jacob Fred. William	Smith, John Wm. M.
Grady, John Harmony	Merrill, John F.	Smith, Wm. Wallace
Gregg, George	McAllister, Adam Armstr'g	Spinks, Alfred
Griffitts, John T.	McConnell, Thomas	Starr, Erwin Platt
Haines, Gabriel	McCormack, Charles	Steinman, Bernard Ulmer
Hammer, Luther Kentz	McCune, Henry Ewalt	Sutliff, Levi Beardslie
Harkness, Harvey Willson	McKune, John Hill	Taylor, Edwin Trost
Haskell, D. H.	Meyer, Bernhard	Trope, Peter
Haymond, Creed	Morse, Stephen	Wachhorst, Herman
Hevener, Wm. Henry	Murphy, Robert Wilson	Wallquist, Carl Johan
Hill, William Henry	Nelson, Alton Titus	Waterhouse, Columbus
Hoag, William Moffit	Nickols, Lewis Balch	Welch, Benjamin
Hoehn, Jacob	Oakley, Peter Eager	Welch, George Deake
Hoehn, William	Odell, John Adams	Wells, William Henry
Holmes, Henry T.	O'Neil, James	Wheeler, Osgood Church
Hull, Joseph	Oschner, John	Wickstram, Carl Elias
Hyman, Jacob, Sr.	Parker, George Norman	Wilcoxson, Jefferson
Hyman, Jacob, Jr.	Parnell, John Henry	Willett, Edward Walter
Inwalle, John Joseph	Perkins, William Dana	Williamson, David J.
Jacobs, Enoch	Phipps, Eugene King	Wilson, Jesse Warren
Jones, Edwin Augustus	Radmaker, Charles	Woods, Jonas Stanbury
Jones, Jeremiah Solon	Ratcliff, William M.	—144.

PAST MASTERS :

Fassett, Lewis Hillyer Howard, Jas. Washington—2.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTER :

Giraud, Eugene—1.

WITHDRAWN :

Gagnon, Alfred
Goss, Leonard
Hall, Gilbert Cowles

McDonald, James M.
Murch, Leonard H.
Scott, Joseph

Smith, Frank
Stamper, Joseph Wolf—8.

EXCLUDED :

Smith, Mathew J.—1.

CALIFORNIA CHAPTER, No. 5.

San Francisco, San Francisco County.

Stated Meetings, first and third Tuesdays in each month.

OFFICERS :

John Francis Snow, <i>High Priest,</i>	Jesse Combes Reed, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Hiram Troop Graves, <i>King,</i>	Wm. Freeborne King, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Alfred Coolidge Waitt, <i>Scribe,</i>	Thomas T. Atkinson, <i>Master of 1st Vail.</i>
Joseph Miller Litchfield, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	Samuel Graves, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Alphonso H. Vaughn, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	William Edward Moody, <i>Secretary,</i>
Henry Sumner Smith, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	James Oglesby, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Reuben Edgar Raymond,
Alex. Gurdon Abell,
William Henry Lyon,
Charles Louis Wiggin,

George Tuttle Grimes,
Wm. Thomas Reynolds,
James Laidley,

Samuel Graves,
William Wilson Traylor,
John Kirkpatrick.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Angus, John Archibald
Ashbury, Monroe
Ashley, Sidney John
Arrowsmith, D. Bloomer
Balch, Stephen Moore
Baldwin, Alex. Richard
Bamber, John
Barnes, Wm. Henry Linow
Barth, Chas. Hunter
Beach, Henry Martin
Beadle, Donald
Bell, John
Best, John Tretten
Bitter, William
Blaikie, James Longhead
Boswell, Solomon Bailey
Bourne, Elisha Wilson
Bradford, William
Bragg, Robert
Brander, John Samuel
Brannan, Samuel
Bridge, Wm. Edward
Brigham, Calvin Oakes
Brooks, Thomas Hubbard
Brown, Roland Gair
Bruner, Wm. Happersatt
Browning, Jeremiah
Callaghan, Charles
Cecil, John
Center, John
Chapin, Dinsmore Davis
Chevers, William Henry
Chipman, Holmes Samuel
Churchill, Clark
Clary, William Henry
Cockrill, Theo. Guevara
Cousins, Charles Samuel
Covert, Abraham Mann
Cox, Henry
Cox, Palmer
Craig, William
Crane, Henry Adolphus
Cummings, Walter Bailey
Carrier, John Charles
Davis, Edmund S.
Davis, Isaac Elphinstone
Day, Franklin Henry

Dongherty, Chas. Medley
Earl, John Ogden
Eastman, Frank
Eaton, Jonas Allen
Eckfeldt, John Michael
Edwards, Frank George
Elliot, Gardner
Ellis, Henry Hiram
Ellis, John Stoneacre
Ewell, Luther Jerome
Estee, Morris March
Farnam, Edward
Farrish, Thomas Edwin
Farwell, Wm. Havard
Flynn, Martin
Garniss, James Rodgers
Garratt, Wm. Thompson
Gates, Horatio Sylvester
Goewey, James Monroe
Grant, Thos. Chamberlin
Gray, William
Green, Alonzo
Gunn, William John
Hall, Robert
Harris, James Henry
Hastings, Everett Linus
Highton, Henry Edward
Hildebrandt, Carsten
Hinckley, Chas. Edward
Hobbs, Caleb Seccohmb
Hodge, John G.
Hodgkins, Alfred Randall
Holcomb, William Austin
Hotaling, Anson P.
Howard, Geo. Henry
Horton, Thos. Rotoh
Ingalls, John Newton
Jacobs, Albert
Jeinsen, Ernest Von
Jeffray, William
Johnson, John Munroe
Johnson, Wm. Corrie
Johnston, Baptist
Johnston, Wm. David
Jones, Cyrus Winship
Jones, Wm. Arthur
Kimball, Moses Combe

King, Henry Lewis
King, John
King, Joseph Libbey
Korts, Henry
Kuh, Leopold
Kyle, Thomas
Kaeding, Chas. Van Buren
Lane, Edmund
Lane, George E. Jr.
Laird, David White
Landers, John
Lewis, Edwin
Litchfield, Watson Dyer
Loop, Sidney Joseph
Love, David Mantua
Louderback, Andrew A.
Luty, John Samuel
Lyman, Charles
Maieas, Christian W.
Mastick, Levi Benj.
Mayer, Samuel David
McComb, John
McDonald, Alex. Dunbar
McNulty, Chas. Augustus
Middleton, Frank
Miller, Elbridge L.
Miller, Stephen Girard
Montagnie, Joseph E. de la
Montague, Wilfred Weed
Moore, Elliot Josiah
Moore, Robert Henry
Morgan, David, Jr.
Morgan, John Stilwell
Morse, Ebenezer Eaton
Morton, Chas. Carey
Nagel, William
Nagle, Geo. Dedrich
Neville, Ernest Harry
Norcross, Daniel
Northrop, David Blair
O'Conner, Thos. Michael
Osgood, George
Parker, George Franklin
Pendergast, James Albert
Plum, Chas. Mortimer
Price, Thomas
Prior, John Lewis

Ramsdell, Benj. Hatch	Stadtfeld, Jacob	Warren, Joseph M.
Reavis, Wm. Henry	Stanley, Samuel Lewis	Waters, George Latham
Reynolds, Frank Bailey	Stebbins, Wm. Pitt Cleveland	Wells, William
Richards, Wm. Henry	Steiger, Charles Rudolphe	Wetherbee, Calvin Hale
Root, Ira Colburn	Stockman, John Milton	Wheeler, Jacob
Rosekrans, Hiram	Stoutenborough, John Hy.	Wightman, John
Rundell, William Mason	Stringer, William James	Wilde, Francis Brooke
Russell, John Adam	Sullivan, Eugene Lemuel	Willey, Chas. Johnson
Schafer, Herman Henry	Swift, James Flitcroft	Willey, Otis Freeman
Schneider, Edward Wm.	Thompson, Lucius	Williams, Abraham Pease
Selden, James Miles	Thomson, Malcolm	Williams, Henry Brown
Shaeffer, John Werner	Thrall, Henry Homer	Williams, John Henry
Shattuck, David Dustin	Torrence, John	Williamson, Robt. Stockton
Short, Peter	Trueworthy, Francis Marion	Wilson, Charles
Shrader, And. Jackson	Van Bokkelen, Jac. Lorillard	Winkle, Henry
Smith, Edwin Lawrence	Van Duzer, Oliver	Wooster, John Benj.—211.
Smith, Stephen Henry	Wadsworth, James C. L.	

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS :

Arnold, Alex. Spencer	Sawyer, Chas. Henry	Waterhouse, Fred'k Adelbert—3.
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RESTORED :

Arrowsmith, David Bloomer	Jacobs, Albert	Morton, Charles Carey—3.
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WITHDRAWN :

Chamberlin, Romeo Milton	Keith, William Henry	Sbarboro, Andrew
Chapman, Holmes Samuel	McGann, Patrick Henry	Walker Thomas
Clairmont, Ralph de	Pike, James Napoleon	White, John Campbell—11.
Dean, Walter Edwin	Phinney, Arthur	

EXCLUDED :

Convis, Charles Cooley	Kincaid, John Evans—2.
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DIED :

Beach, Joseph De Camp	Espinosa, Juan Y.	McDonald, Donald
Crosby, Alfred	Ladd, John Wesley	Piper, Stephen Livingstone
		—6.

NEVADA CHAPTER, No. 6.

Nevada, Nevada County.

Stated Meetings, first Monday in each month.

OFFICERS :

Tallman Hathaway Rolfe, <i>High Priest,</i>	Ianthus Jerome Rolfe, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Thomas Mien, <i>King,</i>	Kaskill Casper, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Edward Williams, <i>Scribe,</i>	James Donald, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
James Henry Helm, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	Martin Luther Marsh, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Rodney Wing, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Thomas Hubbard Caswell, <i>Secretary,</i>
Allen Chapman, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	Joseph Brewster Gray, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Thomas Hubbard Caswell,	Charles Marsh,	Tallman Hathaway Rolfe.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Banner, Phineas	Floyd, William	Prescott, Lyman Reed
Beaumont, Joseph	Fowler, Edwin	Preston, Edward Myers
Chapin, Samuel Leonard	Gentry, Richard Benton	Randolph, Wm. Cooper
Colby, George Hackett	Gilbert, John Richards	Rose, David
Crandall, Orman	Goldsmith, Adolphus	Sargent, Aaron Augustus
Davidson, Wm. Henry	Greenwald, Julius	Slinger, William
Davis, James	Hale, Horace	Stansfield, Halstead
Dickson, John Hutton	Hathaway, Francis Marion	Stowers, Nathaniel Henry
Dill, John	Long, Wm. David	Tisdale, Wm. De Witt
Donald, Alfred	McBrown, John	Weeks, Wm. Hamilton
Donald, Thomas	Montgomery, John	Williamson, Levi
Ennis, Franklin	Pease, Sanford Orrin	Wirth, James Albert—49.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTER :

Fleming, Joseph Davenport.

WITHDRAWN :

Conyers, Benjamin L. McKee, George Butterfield Niles, Addison Cook—3.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Seymour, Charles Henry—1.

DIED :

Thompson, Alexander—1.

BENICIA CHAPTER. No. 7.**Benicia, Solano County.***Stated Meetings, Tuesday of or next preceding Full Moon.***OFFICERS :**

Timothy Sage, <i>High Priest,</i>	Edw. Horatio Von Pfister, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
John Housley, <i>King,</i>	Archibald McDonald, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Joseph Green Johnson, <i>Scribe,</i>	Robert Stewart, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
George Poor, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	John Rueger, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Wm. Henry Smith, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Thomas McKay, <i>Secretary,</i>
Lansing Bond Mizner, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	William Matthewson, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Sylvester Woodbridge,

Timothy Sage.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Ashbrook, Alfred	Grant, John	Pollock, Robert
Boles, J. L.	Holbrook, Charles Edward	Scott, James
Brownlee, Thomas	Long, Michael Henry	Spaulding, Charles
Danforth, Edwin	Mathewson, John	Spencer, Christopher
Ennis, Richard	McKenzie, Allen	Stone, John Charles
Freeman, Otis Kimball	Owen, John Wren	Westlake, John—31.

WITHDRAWN :

Smith, Sampson

Wells, William Sewall

Tustin, William Isaac—3.

EXCLUDED :

Duff, Thomas—1.

DIED :

McMillan, Charles—1.

SHASTA CHAPTER, No. 9.

Shasta, Shasta County.

Stated Meetings, second and fourth Tuesdays in each month.

OFFICERS :

Daniel Potter Bystle, <i>High Priest,</i>	Charles Anderson, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
John Varner Scott, <i>King,</i>	Elijah Mason Dixon, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
William Ely Hopping, <i>Scribe,</i>	Alex'r Cartwright Swain, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Adolph Dobrowsky, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	David Weil, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Joseph Isaacs, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	James Nathan Chappell, <i>Secretary,</i>
Jas. Freeman Scammon, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	Gunther Fred'k Charles Schroter, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Whiting Griswold West, <i>P. G. H. P.</i>	Adolph Dobrowsky,
Joseph Isaacs,	George Carruth Farquhar.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Allen, Mortimer Churbery	Kiess, James Henry	Shurtleff, Benjamin
Andrew, William	Lean, William	Souter, John
Andrews, Alex. Robinson	Matlock, David	Sweet, Henry Andrew
Anklin, Henry	Lord, Ulysses Richard	Syme, John
Chandler, Fred. Brewster	Overmire, Charles Edwin	Taylor, Holloway
Coleman, Adoram	Parker, William	Watson, William
Cushing, John	Pryor, Athanasius	Webb, John Paxton
Garden, John William	Reagan, James	Weil, Joseph
Goodberg, Francis William	Reinecke, Christopher	Wheeler, Frank
Greene, Thomas	Ross, Herman Frederick	Wilson, Henry Ellis
Guptil, William Neal	Shuffleton, Hugh Hall	Wimmer, James Moses—47.

WITHDRAWN :

Newsbaum, A. B. C.—1.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Durant, Samuel W.	James, John	Reese, Edward Ludwig—5.
Higginbotham, John Baptist	Moore, Joseph	

SUTTER CHAPTER, No. 11.

Jackson, Amador County.

Stated Meetings, first Friday in each month.

OFFICERS :

Henry Peck, <i>High Priest,</i>	John Miss Campbell, <i>Master of 3d Vail.</i>
Robert Aitken, <i>King,</i>	Morris Brinn, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Charles Drake Burleson, <i>Scribe,</i>	William Smith, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
John Whitton Surface, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	Peter Fagan, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Abner Edw. Callanay, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	Alonzo King Dudley, <i>Secretary,</i>
Henry Lynn Waldo, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	Philemon Cook, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

James William Bicknell,	Alexander Cartwright Joy,
Alvinza Hayward,	Henry Peck.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Adams, James	Isaacs, Bernhard	Post, John McDougal
Axtell, Samuel Beach	Kales, Martin W.	Poundstone, Laurence Ryd
Briggs, Samuel Green	Kelley, John Barnes	Purrington, Columbus Alle
Bury, Daniel William	Keys, John	Reichling, Peter
Clute, Peter Alonzo	Levinsky, Mark	Robinson, John Andrew
Cosner, Robert	Lutnesky, Vincent	Rose, Albert Henry
Davies, David Thomas	Manon, Samuel Sanford	Spagnolia, Duval Bennedetto
Dunlap, Thomas	McLane, Laughlin	Spagnolia, Sylvest'r Giovani
Farley, James Thompson	Mehrtens, Daniel	Stewart, Horace Moulton
Fisk, Henry Mortimer	Milliken, Jesse	Sutherland, William
Ford, Henry Darnell	Newman, George	Walther, Otto
Hall, Henry Frank	Palmer, Eliphalet Charles	Whitlach, Daniel Henry
Henly, Jotham Specker	Parkinson, Manuel Casado	Wolley, Eliphus Burt—54.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTER :

Bennetts, William—1.

DIED :

Turner, Jesse Foot—1.

CALAVERAS CHAPTER, No. 12.**Snelling, Merced County.***Stated Meetings, second and fourth Wednesdays in each month.***OFFICERS :**

Charles Macmurdo Blair, <i>High Priest,</i>	Nicholas Breen, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Frederick Becker, <i>King,</i>	Silas March, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
William John Hart, <i>Scribe,</i>	John Alex. Kendrick, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Samuel Mitchell Brown, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	Peter Dinwiddie Wigginton, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Mark Howell, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	William Seaman Weed, <i>Secretary,</i>
Isaac Henry Jacobs, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	William Leland Means, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Peter Dinwiddie Wigginton, Charles Macmurdo Blair.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Adams, William	Dickinson, Samuel	Rector, Eldridge Gerry
Aiken, John McFee	Eagleson, Erastus	Scott, Moses Heaton
Bates, Samuel Claghorn	Fuqua, John Woodson	Silman, William Lewis
Bradford, Abram Clark	James, Henry George	Wallace, Erastus
Delashmutt, Basil	Lebright, Frederick	Welch, Peyton Young
Dickinson, James Johnson	Meany, Anthony James	Welch, Lucilius Arthur—30.

WITHDRAWN :

Burchard, John Luther Jackson, Samuel Perry Jamison, David Allison—3.

DIED :

Floto, William—1.

WASHINGTON CHAPTER, No. 13.

Marysville, Yuba County.

Stated Meetings, second and fourth Fridays in each month.

OFFICERS :

Charles E. Stone, <i>High Priest,</i>	Victor Lewis Earnshields, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Myer A. Marcuse, <i>King,</i>	Arthur Gilman Drake, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Eli Teegarden, <i>Scribe,</i>	Thomas Hugh Kernan, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Joseph Lask, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Marcus Marcuse, <i>Treasurer,</i>
William Fletcher, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	James Fred Eastman, <i>Secretary,</i>
Edward Henry Hudson, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	Thomas Weston Kent, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Wm. Lee Lawrence Norman Dunning Rideout Edm'd Taylor Wilkins Chas. E. Stone

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Arnold, David Elmore	Dougall, Thomas	Marker, Henry Bowman
Barrie, John Ferguson	Faulkner, Charles	Mayoux, Antoine
Belcher, Isaac Sawyer	Filkins, Charles Edward	McDaniel, Richard Harrison
Belcher, Wm. Caldwell	Foster, John Quincy	McIlmoil, John
Bigelow, Marcus James	Friend, William	Mead, George Purdy
Bingham, Atkins Clark	Hamilton, Ebenezer	Merrill, Rufus Rowe
Binney, Andrew Jackson	Hamlin, Norman Scott	North, George
Bockius, Charles George	Harrington, Chris. Clarke	Parks, William Henry
Bourne, George Jesse	Harris, Isaac Thompson	Patterson, Charles Milton
Briggs, Joseph Warren	Hartwell, William Hiscock	Patton, John
Burchard, John Luther	Hatch, Francis Lewis	Richardson, Geo. Strother
Burgett, Henry	Hathwell, Charles Aust	Rogers, Samuel Josiah Smith
Buttelmann, Frederick	Heath, George	Ross, Samnel Haws
Carpenter, Geo. Washington	Hochstadter, Simon	Spear, Andrew Potter
Chandler, Melvin L.	Hogle, William Henry	Stafford, Joshua
Cheney, John	Hudson, William Kendall	Stratton, Cornelius Allen
Cohen, Isaac	Hunter, Enos Clark	Swain, William Caldwell
Cohen, William	Hutchings, Samuel Cole	Tomb, Jacob
Cohn, Bernhard	Hutchinson, Samuel	Walker, Charles Frederick
Cook, Herman Albert	Jackson, William	Walker, Louis Phillip
Crittenden, John Dwight	Jones, William Price	White, Amasa Willey
Crane, Lemuel Trescott	Keser, Louis	Whitebread, Wm. Cezar
Cummins, Samuel	Keyser, Philip Walter	Wilcoxon, Caleb Elisha
Decker, Peter	Logan, Andrew Dabney	Willey, Amasa Parker
Dickey, James Thomas	Lohse, Herman	Woods, Matthew—90.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS :

Caldwell, Arthur Brooks	Harris, Elisha A.	Spaulding, Frank—5.
Gerkew, John Henry	McNutt, John Fleming	

PAST MASTERS :

Irwin, Alexander Cameron	Warren, Jonas Halstead—2.
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MARK MASTERS :

Ellis, William Turner	Traynor, James—2.
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WITHDRAWN :

Heath, James
Jones, George Foster

Leech, Charles
Rhees, Henry Holcombe

Thomas, Chas. I.—5.

EXCLUDED :

Sherwood, William Franklin—1.

DIED :

Murphy, Charles H.—1.

HOWARD CHAPTER, No. 14.

San Jose, Santa Clara County.

Stated Meetings, first Wednesday in each month.

OFFICERS :

George May, <i>High Priest</i> ,	Chas. Henry Arnold, <i>Master of 3d Vail</i>
Henry Olp Weller, <i>King</i> ,	Harvey Newton Rice, <i>Master of 2d Vail</i> ,
Jeremiah Yancy Brown, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Proctor R. Wells, <i>Master of 1st Vail</i> ,
Wilbur Justus Wilcox, <i>Captain of the Host</i> ,	Daniel Bohen, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Sam'l Watson Boring, <i>Principal Sojourner</i> ,	Edward Fallis Spence, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Alonzo B. Hamilton, <i>Royal Arch Captain</i> ;	George Sim, <i>Chaplain</i> ,
Hugh Johnson Bradley, <i>Guard</i> .	

Past High Priests :

John Bankson Hewson,

Jared Turner,

William Alex. January.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Andrews, H. L.	Henklebein, Adam	Moser, Jacob
Arnold, Austin	Holmes, Parker Butterfield	Moyle, Isaiah
Barling, Harry	Houghton, Henry Albert	Ohnstein, Oscar
Bennett, Geo. Edmund	Hoyt, Amasa James	Peacock, Geo. Washington
Bishop, Samuel Addison	Johnson, Samuel William	Reither, Jacob
Black, James Francis	Jones, Hugh Stevenson	Roberts, Return
Bodley, Thomas	Joyce, William W.	Rowley, Albanus Beliger
Bradlee, Ezra Smith	Keith, John Matthew	Rucker, Joseph Edmondson
Brothers, Henry	Lenzen, Theodore	Sargent, James Pattee
Dennis, Nelson	Mayers, Christian	Spring, Thaddens Warsaw
Dunshee, Rollin	Menefee, Joseph Jefferson	Tobin, M.
Easterday, Solomon Warren	McDougall, Giles Eggleston	Tully, Edward C.
Fallon, Thomas	McKenzie, Donald	Tully, Pleasant Briton
Garrand, Louis	McMurtry, William Sharpe	Warthen, Albert S.
Gerdes, John Christian	Morey, Harvey Chapin	Watson, James Hodges—63
Hathaway, Daniel F.	Mott, Richard Fitzallen	

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS :

Lemons, James

Porter, John T.—2.

WITHDRAWN :

Deleval, Charles

Ingham, James—2.

CYRUS CHAPTER, No. 15.

Yreka, Siskiyou County.

Stated Meetings, second Tuesday in each month.

OFFICERS :

Alonzo Emery Raynes, <i>High Priest,</i>	And. Jackson Fabricius, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Samuel Pellet, <i>King,</i>	Jurgen Osterman, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Elijah Carrick, <i>Scribe,</i>	William Peters, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
———, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	William McConnell, <i>Treasurer,</i>
James Vance, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	John Morris Walbridge, <i>Secretary,</i>
Curtis Hooper Pyle, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	Francis Dumas, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Daniel Ream,	Edgar Walcott Potter,	Alonzo Emery Raynes.
Abisha Swain,	James Vance,	

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Acuff, Joseph Christopher	Hansen, Hans	McConaughy, James
Brown, Mitchell Alexander	Haserick, Anton	Newton, Joel
Burns, Albert Vanderbilt	Hassenauer, John Nichols	Nichols, Henry
Caro, Isidor	Heard, Elijah Hice	Owens, Alexander
Champlin, Orin	Horn, David	Pfenninger, Herman
Crooka, Andrew Donaldson	Huseman, Louis	Riley, Francis
Davis, Charles	Jones, John Johnson	Rogers, Franklin Augustus
Diggles, James Alden	Knights, George Horace	Shaw, David Henry
Doney, William Kise	Lang, Joseph, Jr.	Smith, George
Doten, John Silas	Lytle, James Alexander	Steward, Samuel Jonathan
Doten, Josiah Wilson	McBride, John Walter	Stow, Solomon Erab
Durand, George	Monet, Louis	Vogan, James
Fairchilds, John	Morgan, William Henry	Wadsworth, Henry—54.
Farrington, Stephen		

WITHDRAWN:

Bisbee, William	Lanphier, Gilbert—2.
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SUSPENDED FOR UNMASONIC CONDUCT :

Paul, John Wenzell—1.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Jackson, Eugene James—1.

DIED :

Travelli, Charles—1.

ST. JAMES CHAPTER, No. 16.

Placerville, El Dorado County.

Stated Meetings, first Wednesday in each month.

OFFICERS :

George Heirn Gilbert, <i>High Priest,</i>	Charles Joseph Cello, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Charles Fitzgerald Irwin, <i>King,</i>	And. Jackson Kennedy, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Charles Broad, <i>Scribe,</i>	Geo. Granville Blanchard, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Ralph J. Van Voorhies, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	Guissepee, Roller, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Thos. John Caystle, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Thomas Fraser, <i>Secretary,</i>
Nelson Henry Murry, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Charles John Arvidson, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Fred'k Ferd. Barss,

George Heirn Gilbert,

Robert Chalmers.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Baber, Andrew Jackson
 Barlow, Geo. Washington
 Blakely, Album James
 Boop, John Daniel
 Chalmers, George
 Christie, Andrew Jackson
 Crowder, Jeremiah Jackson
 Gelwicks, Daniel William

Hamel, Henry
 Hertel, Charles H. E.
 Hopkins, Lemuel B.
 Hume, James Bunyan
 Ievan, Daniel Webster
 Levy, Joseph
 Lohry, Adam
 Norton, Daniel E.

Pierce, Charles Caleb
 Plumado, Frank Hilair
 Raphael, Henry Daniel
 Stewart, William Wallace
 Taghtmier, Frederick
 Turman, Byron Isaac
 Verozza, Marco—37.

PAST MASTERS :

Danty, Paul

Mack, George Franklin—2.

WITHDRAWN :

Meachem, Benjamin—1.

DIED :

Roy, John—1.

LIBANUS CHAPTER, No. 17.**Iowa Hill, Placer County.***Stated Meetings, Saturday of or next succeeding Full Moon.***OFFICERS :**

James Ross, *High Priest*,
 James Jasper Rich, *King*,
 Adams Barrett, *Scribe*,
 Wm. Whipple Poole, *Captain of the Host*,
 John Floyd Van Divier, *Prin. Sojourner*,
 Jona. Mitchell Smith, *R. A. Captain*,

James Weeks Chinn, *Master 3d Vail*,
 Henry Stemple, *Master 2d Vail*,
 John Henry Mitchell, *Master 1st Vail*,
 Edward George Spencer, *Treasurer*,
 John Butler, *Secretary*,
 John Schmitt, *Guard*.

Past High Priests :

William Clinton Rich,

James Dods,

James Ross.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Cameron, William
 Eddings, Geo. Franklin
 Develey, Henry K.
 Gould, Willis Fish
 Hughs, Richard Rogers

Jacobs, James Munroe
 Jones, Jehoaikim
 Jones, Owen
 Just, John Peter

Lewis, Robert
 Mill, William
 Smith, William
 White, William K.—27.

MARK MASTERS :

Leighton, Augustus Lord

Mitchell, Edward—2.

WITHDRAWN :

Ladd, Horace Comstock—1.

GRASS VALLEY CHAPTER, No. 18.

Grass Valley, Nevada County.

Stated Meetings, first Wednesday in each month.

OFFICERS :

Reuben Leech, <i>High Priest,</i>	Jonathan Converse Clough, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Edward Coleman, <i>King,</i>	John Newton Major, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
James Gluyas, <i>Scribe,</i>	Thomas Cross, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Daniel Kendig, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Wm. Kenyon Spencer, <i>Treasurer,</i>
John Lawrence, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	William Smith, <i>Secretary,</i>
Orlando Stoddard, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Alexander Burnie, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Alfred Barrett Dibble,	William McCormick,	Alex. Buchanan Brady.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Anderson, Robert	Glass, Schenck	Price, Briscoe Hugh
Angove, John	Goddard, Joseph	Rhatigan, John
Baun, John Frederick	Goad, John Cornelius	Roberts, Edmund Wilson
Binkleman, David	Green, Milton	Sanders, John
Boden, Thomas	Grymes, George Anderson	Saxon, Edward
Bryan, John Albion	Hand, William Dawson	Saxon, James
Bryant, William Henry	Halleck, Joseph	Simpson, James
Clift, William	Hatch, Martin Payne	Smith, Charles Woolson
Coleman, John Crisp	Lathrop, Solomon	Stephens, Henry Randall
Combe, William	Martin, Joseph	Stokes, William Charles
Dorsey, John Jacob	Mitchell, Charles Henry	Thompson, John Burns
Fairhurst, Geo. Washington	Mitchell, William Henry	Tremewan, James
Farrell, James Alexander	Morris, Jacob	Vincent, George
Findley, Thomas	Nathan, Benjamin	Walker, Thomas Rolla
Fricot, Jules	Noall, James	Watt, William
Gad, Bernard	Noel, Richard	Whiting, Edw. Houston—65.
Gilham, Samuel Marion	Noonan, Patrick	

PAST MASTERS :

Delano, Alonzo	Mansau, Zephaniah—2.
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MARK MASTERS :

Coffee, William R.	Weaver, George—2.
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WITHDRAWN :

Shamp, Thomas B.—1.

TRINITY CHAPTER, No. 19.

Weaverville, Trinity County.

Stated Meetings, second and last Tuesdays in each month.

OFFICERS :

Wiley James Tinnin, <i>High Priest,</i>	Gotlieb Fred'k Diener, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Ole Christian Christianson, <i>King,</i>	Jacob Paulsen, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Wm. David Sutherlin, <i>Scribe,</i>	David Harden, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
John Clifton Mason, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	William Cushing Given, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Jas. Madison Pickett, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Morris Franklin Griffin, <i>Secretary,</i>
Joel Chilton Wood, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	John August Charles Goering, <i>Guard.</i>

*Returns of Subordinate Chapters to the***Past High Priests:**

Wiley James Tinnin,

John Clifton Mason.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Black, Peter Peterson

Miller, Thomas Love

Raab, Louis

McGillivray, Joseph

Musser, John

Ruch, Michael—18.

WITHDRAWN :

Flowers, John Buchanan

Scofield, Tracy—2.

DIED :

Norcross, Oliver H. Perry—1.

FRANKLIN CHAPTER, No. 20.**Oroville, Butte County.***Stated Meetings, second and fourth Fridays in each month.***OFFICERS :**Thomas Callow, *High Priest,*Charles Fayette Lott, *King,*Charles Burroughs, *Scribe,*John Boughton Hewitt, *Capt. of the Host,*Geo. Clement Perkins, *Princip'l Sojourner,*David King Perkins, *Royal Arch Capt.*Louis Simons, *Master 3d Vail,*St. John Jackson, *Master 2d Vail,*Ebenezer Morrison Sparks, *Mast. 1st Vail,*James Monroe Vance, *Treasurer,*Arthur McDermott, *Secretary,*Abram B. Gallinger, *Guard.***Past High Priests:**

Thomas Callow,

Charles Fayette Lott,

George Clement Perkins,

Arthur McDermott,

Thomas Jarrett Jenkins,

George Henry Crosette.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Beall, John

Becker, Frederick John

Berry, John S.

Branscomb, John

Buchanan, Philander

Chappel, Wallace Homer

Dempsey, John J.

Dyer, Geo. Washington

Faulkner, Thomas

Grosvenor, Daniel Wells

Hamlin, George Laurence

Harris, Jahial

Hassinger, Andrew Jackson

Heintz, Thibaud

Hida, Jehu

Hundley, Patrick Oglesby

Mitchell, John Constantine

Plum, Nathaniel Danbar

Rollins, Daniel Fletcher

Ruggles, Elijah Starr

Stearns, Amos Kies

Wagner, Frank

Wardwell, James A.

Wells, Michael Henry

West, Miers Barton

Young, Henry G.—40.

PAST MASTER :

Bean, Jackson—1.

MARK MASTERS :

Kinney, John Leander Spaulding, And. Jackson—2.

WITHDRAWN :

Bidwell, John

Bloch, Joseph

Chamberlain, Aaron L.

Cochrane, Rufus Mycagah

Gaskill, Rollin Carolus

Pond, Charles Lewis

Peacock, James R.

Wetherbee, Ira—8.

SIERRA CHAPTER, No. 21.

Downieville, Sierra County.

Stated Meetings, Saturday of or next preceding Full Moon.

OFFICERS :

William Thompson Luther, <i>High Priest,</i>	Joseph Berg, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Benjamin Pauly, <i>King,</i>	Valentine Hartling, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Edwin Ransom Davis, <i>Scribe,</i>	William Adam Farish, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Alexander Thom, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Ernst Kruse, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Wm. Henry Gunsolus, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	William Ryan, <i>Secretary,</i>
Hiram George Weir, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Samuel Alleman, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Lewis Reynolds,	Washington Cicero Dond,	Edwin Ransom Davis,
Henry Warner,	William Thompson Luther,	Alemby Jump.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Abbey, George Henry	Eschbacher, FrantzAntoine,	Riley, William Eugene
Asher, Alex. Branch	Grippen, Erastus Mortimer	Roes, John
Bernhard, Lewis	Hanley, William A.	Shawness, John
Black, Alexander	Higgins, Edward	Silverwood, John
Busch, August Christopher	Koutz, John	Smith, Thomas
Corbett, Miles S.	Langstaff, Matthew	Stewart, Samuel Curtis
Corcoran, James	Parsons, Nathan	Thatcher, Peter
Crane, Lauren Elliot	Pratt, Leonidas E.	Thomas, Henry
Creveling, Elemuel N. L.	Purdy, Henry Haddon	Wilkins, William—45.
Crooks, James Brown	Purdy, Solomon	

PAST MASTER :

Martin, George C—1.

WITHDRAWN :

Anderson, John—1.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Bowers, Thos. Jefferson	Hackett, Francis Marion	Kinney, Julius
Clements, Quincy Adams	Johnson, James Augustus	Mitchell, David W.—6.

DIED :

Hughes, William—1.

PETALUMA CHAPTER, No. 22.

Petaluma, Sonoma County.

Stated Meetings, first and third Mondays in each month.

OFFICERS :

Benjamin Franklin Tuttle, <i>High Priest,</i>	James Huline Knowles, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Simon Conrad, <i>King,</i>	Achille Kahn, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
William Carpenter, <i>Scribe,</i>	Alexander Lackey, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Hiram Fayette Taft, <i>Captain of the Host</i>	Joseph Martin Bowles, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Josiah Horace Crane, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Oscar Valentine Walker, <i>Secretary,</i>
John Boyd Christle, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	James Singley, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

James Singley,
Thomas Jefferson Graham,

Joshua Lester Bond,
Benjamin Franklin Tuttle.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Anderson, James Wright	Heineken, Herman Albert	Nace, Edward Joseph
Anderson, Wm. Lafayette	Hendley, John	Overton, Albert Perry
Biehler, William	Holden, William	Pierce, Abram Jewell
Bond, William Hammet	Hoffman, Adam Joseph	Preston, Richard Milne
Carder, Dennison Delos	Huie, George William	Ross, William
Clouett, Henry Felix	Huie, John Thompson	Schroyer, Aaron
Dreyfuss, Edward	Jorgenson, Jess	Shaver, John
Fairbanks, Hiram Tobbert	Kuffel, Isaac	Shone, Thomas
Farley, Francis Hall	Maguire, James Foster	Stockwell, Murenos Vincent
Farmer, Elijah Thompson	Malott, Leonard Coatsworth	Tempel, Conrad
Galvin, Micah Jonah C.	Merritt, John	Thompson, Jefferson—48.
Gerlock, Lewis		

MARK MASTER:

Hayes, R. K.—1.

WITHDRAWN:

Albertson, Erick Jensen

Fike, Nathan

Riley, Amos—3.

OLIVER CHAPTER, No. 23.

Forest Hill, Placer County.

Stated meetings, Thursday of or next preceding Full Moon.

OFFICERS:

James Russell Glover, <i>High Priest</i> ,	James Borland, <i>Master 3d Vail</i> ,
Joseph Trail Middleton, <i>King</i> ,	Peyton Powel, <i>Master 2d Vail</i> ,
Richard Williams, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Jacob Lock Welker, <i>Master 1st Vail</i> ,
Ambrose Hall Cowden, <i>Capt. of the Host</i> ,	Simeon Sylvester Willard, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
William Krysher, <i>Principal Sojourner</i> ,	Jacob Warwick Byrd, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Joel Franklin Smith, <i>Royal Arch Captain</i> ,	Franklin Walker Allen, <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests:

Russell Parkhurst,

James Russell Glover.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Allen, John E.	Goff, Abner W.	Nelson, Edward Peter
Breece, Abram	Hosmer, Daniel Mansfield	Penman, Wm. Alexander
Carter, John Franklin	Hosmer, Thomas Norwood	Shain, Warren Cassius
Cox, Richard	Huntley, Ashley	Shields, Wm Sterret
Cravens, Robert Oscar	Johnson, Maguies	Tickle, John
Davis, John Floyd	Jones, John D.	Tubbs, Martin Barnum
Dewey, Charles Hichcock	Lind, Charles	White, Walter Raleigh—36.
Fast, John Henry Adolph	Morton, Geo. Washington	

RESTORED:

Shain, Warren Cassius

Stevens, Ward S.—2.

WITHDRAWN:

Stevens, Ward S.—1.

EXCLUDED:

Mause, Matthew—1.

LA FAYETTE CHAPTER, No. 24.

Camptonville, Yuba County.

Stated Meetings, Wednesday of or next preceding Full Moon.

OFFICERS :

Richard Munt, <i>High Priest,</i>	Silas Sherman Baker, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
William Walker Gibson, <i>King,</i>	Charles O'Hara, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
William Alex. Meek, <i>Scribe,</i>	Isaac Elias, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
David Henry Landecker, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	Josiah Perkins Brown, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Benj. Threlkeld O'Rear, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	James Arnott, <i>Secretary,</i>
Valentine Cook McMurray, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	Joshua Hutchings Variel, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Josiah Perkins Brown,	Joshua Hutchings Variel,	Valentine Cook McMurray.
Richard Munt,	Benj. Threlkeld O'Rear,	

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Baxter, John	Dickinson, Barney Hawley	Spencer, Stephen
Beaman, John Henry	Russell, Peter	Walton, George Wash'n—18.

WITHDRAWN :

Van Rensselaer, Philip Stephen.—1.

GEORGETOWN CHAPTER, No. 25.

Georgetown, El Dorado County.

Stated Meetings, Saturday of or next succeeding Full Moon.

OFFICERS :

Henry Warren Russell, <i>High Priest,</i>	John Dodd Skinner, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Solomon Adam Berry, <i>King,</i>	James Moon, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Harry Kelly, <i>Scribe,</i>	Isaac Priestly Jackson, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Reuben Rich Wiley, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Samuel Jemmison Alden, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Samuel Doncaster, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Richard Doncaster, Jr., <i>Secretary,</i>
Wm. Carey Anderson, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Chas. Langley, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Richard Doncaster, Jr.,	John Ernest Kunkler,	Henry Warren Russell.
William Roush,	Samuel Doncaster,	

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Armstrong, Thomas Z.	Fillipini, Rinaldo	Nye, Samuel Porter
Beattie, George	Fleishman, Jacob	Pedrini, Cipriano
Benjamin, De Witt C.	Hawks, Zeeb Cortez	Pedrini, Massimino
Carter, John E.	Hunter, Geo. Washington	Prince, Daniel
Crawford, Ellison Lassell	Lagerson, Frederick	Simpers, Geo. Washington
Davison, John P.	Lawyer, John Jay	Spencer, Willis Eugene
Downs, John L.	Markle, John Alexander	Wade, John
Dunahoo, Wm. Washington	McMurry, Jas. Douglass	Watson, Elijah Harper—39.
Epps, Tinsley Barton		

WITHDRAWN :

Robinson, Jeremiah—1.

EXCLUDED :

Thomas, William L.

OAKLAND CHAPTER, No. 26.**Oakland, Alameda County.***Stated Meetings, first and third Thursdays in each month.***OFFICERS :**

George Mansfield Blake, <i>High Priest</i> ,	John Henry Evers, <i>Master 3d Vail</i> ,
Thatcher Peter Wales, <i>King</i> ,	Christian Bøgge, <i>Master 2d Vail</i> ,
John Macklin Miner, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Francis K. Shattuck, <i>Master 1st Vail</i> ,
Stephen Nolan, <i>Captain of the Host</i> ,	Jeremiah Elken Whitcher, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
William H. Irwin, <i>Principal Sojourner</i> ,	Benjamin Akerly, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Paul Henry Cordes, <i>Royal Arch Captain</i> ,	Walter Prosser, (not a member) <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests :

Jeremiah Elken Whitcher,	John Macklin Miner,
Benjamin Akerly,	Isaac Ernest Nickelson.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Ayers, William Henry	Elliott, Matthew	Mann, Benj. Franklin
Bagley, William Patrick	Estrado, Frederick	Maloon, Benjamin
Beal, Rufus, Jr.	Fenn, John Lewis	McKee, Samuel Bell
Beazell, James	Gab, William Moor	McMillen, Robert
Becht, Joseph	Geischen, John	Minor, James O.
Bell, Samuel Bookstaver	Greenhood, Jacob	Rector, Ledwell James
Block, Emanuel David	Harwood, Wm. Douglass	Searing, William
Brown, Rosenwell Jackson	Havens, Henry Herman	Seddon, James
Caddy, John	Henninger, Frederick	Shimon, John Lewis
Carrick, John Willard	Hillebrand, Henry	Smith, Elzaphan Ithamon
Chapman, Lemuel G.	Hirshberg, Samuel	Tickner, Daniel
Chisholm, John	Hitchcock, Henry Elisha	Trogden, Willy H.
Cooley, James Munro	Hobbs, Levit Moses	Van Voorhies, William
Cooms, Henry	Howe, Micha Mead	Warner, Franklin
Crane, William Watrous	Jansen, Ernest F. George	Watkins, Leonard
Cushing, Clinton	Kyte, James Carter	Wheelan, Alanson
Delger, Frederick	Lentell, James	Zabel, Julius—64.
Dieves, Joseph		

MARK MASTER :

Reed, Charles H.—1.

WITHDRAWN :

Alexander, Henry

Jahn, Henry—2.

DELTA CHAPTER, No. 27.

Auburn, Placer County.

Stated Meetings, Thursday of or next preceding Full Moon.

OFFICERS :

Benjamin Franklin Myers, <i>High Priest,</i>	William Henry Mullen, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Edward Frederick Holley, <i>King,</i>	John McBride, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Benjamin Dulaney Dunham, <i>Scribe,</i>	Mahlon Waldron, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
John Riggs Crandall, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Francis Antone Lux, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Jonathan D. Pratt, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	David W. Lubeck, <i>Secretary,</i>
Thomas Jamison, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Gera B. Predmore, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

John Riggs Crandall,	Benj. Franklin Myres.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Applegate, Geo. Washington,	Laven, James Andrew	Stonecipher, Isaac
Harper, Thos. Burrill	Shepard, H. M.	Wardwell, Jarius V.—20.
Hellwig, Charles	Smith, Edward Guy	

PAST MASTER :

Maguire, Lucius—1.

WITHDRAWN :

Agan, John Scott	Sexton, William	Webber, Mack—3.
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EXCLUDED :

Hale, James Ellery—1.

STOCKTON CHAPTER, No. 28.

Stockton, San Joaquin County.

Stated Meetings, fourth Tuesday in each month.

OFFICERS :

Thomas Kent Hook, <i>High Priest,</i>	Jno. Robt. Scott Jackson, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Alexander Chalmers, <i>King,</i>	Edward Scott, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Joseph Mills Cavis, <i>Scribe,</i>	Willard Franklin Fletcher, <i>M. 1st Vail,</i>
Geo. Alex. McKenzie, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	James Littlehale, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Henry Coffin Shaw, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Lemuel Elisha Lyon, <i>Secretary,</i>
William Graham, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Thomas Driver, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Isaac Sutvene, <i>P. G. H. P.</i>	Timothy Winn Newell,
William Abraham Davies, <i>P. D. G. H. P.</i>	Gilbert Burnett Claiborne,
Royal Bellows Parker,	Edward Richard Hedges.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Bargion, Peter	Bertrand, Louis	Burkett, Alexander
Barada, Laurent	Bond, Morris Hartwell	Choate, Thomas Baker
Belding, Charles	Brown, Philip Thomas	Cooper, Calvin Savage
Beritzhoff, Alex. Charles	Brutschy, Charles	Cutting, Lewis Morrison

Daly, John	Ivory, Charles Oscar	Selden, James Richard
Daniels, James Moore	Kelsey, John Milton	Seldner, Jacob Joseph
Dorrance, Henry Tully	Keeler, Wm. Henry	Sheeran, John
Dyke, Ozro D.	Kingsley, James Forman	Shurtleff, Geo. Augustus
Eldridge, Edward Duane	Langford, Benj. Franklin	Smith, James Caldwell
Eldridge, Samuel	Meinecke, Frederick	Stamper, William B.
Elliott, Lyman Weston	Milco, Nicola	Stevens, Eben Shepard
Ely, Benj. Ezra Stiles	Mountjoy, George Lewis	Stewart, Frank
Evans, George Spofford	Munter, August Fred. Wm.	Stockton, Elias Alonzo
Fanning, Howard Malcom	Orr, Nelson Mills	Swain, Cornelius
Fraser, Phillip Barry	Peters, Joseph D.	Taylor, Ed. Hy. Courtney
Grissim, Henry	Roberts, John Arthur	Thresher, Minord Sprague
Hickman, Edward	Roseman, Frederick	Tilghman, George
Hodgkins, Henry	Rothenbush, Peter	Vance, John Anderson
Houston, William James	Sargent, Henry Sumner	Wilhoit, Roley Early
Hume, James	Sedgwick, John	Wilson, Thomas
Ireland, Elias	Seilnacht, Frank	Zimmerman, John A.—81.

RESTORED :

Tilden, William P.—1.

WITHDRAWN :

Hampton, Columbus

Tilden, William P.

Young, William Aberto—3.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Gage, Orris C.—1.

MANZANITA CHAPTER, No. 29.**North San Juan, Nevada County.***Stated Meetings, first Friday in each month.***OFFICERS :**

John Storer McBride, <i>High Priest,</i>	John McCoy, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
George Cummings Spooner, <i>King,</i>	Alonzo Willis Overt, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
William Huff, <i>Scribe,</i>	Patrick Henry Butler, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Reginald Powell, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	John Ambrose Seely, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Elias Bramon Harris, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Martin Van Buren Chapman, <i>Secretary,</i>
Frank Napoleon Morris, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	William Dunning, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

John Ambrose Seely,

Joseph Cook,

George Washington Perkins,

John Benedict Hunter.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Abbott, Charles Atwood	Cunard, James Henry	Ipson, Hans
Ayer, Lonard Barney	Effinger, John Henry	Jepson, Jacob
Beard, James Edward	Fitter, John	Kenney, Henry Lee
Bell, Vincent George	Freeman, Thomas	McDonald, And. Jackson
Buhring, Lewis	Furth, Jacob	McMurry, Robert
Cadwallader, Niram	Gitchell, Hiram	McNulty, Henry
Chisholm, James	Henderson, David	Morgan, John Thomas
Cooke, Joseph Bailey	Hillard, Samuel Robert	Noblet, William Berry
Cull, Henry	Inder, Job Staples	Phillips, Reuben

Pollard, Charles Joseph	Swan, Anson Burlingame	Tucker, Joseph Bernard
• Powell, Sidney	Trainor, James McWade	Westerfield, Wm. Jackson
Rich, Henry Hudson	Trood, William	—50.

WITHDRAWN :

Le Sure, William Henry	Powell, Alfred—2.
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SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Burnett, Charles—1.

NAPA CHAPTER, No. 30.

Napa, Napa County.

Stated Meetings, second and fourth Fridays in each month.

OFFICERS :

Ralph Ellis, <i>High Priest,</i>	William Andrews, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Beeby Robinson, <i>King,</i>	Wm. Henry Holiday, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Wm. Corbinos Schanck Smith, <i>Scribe,</i>	Chas. Nicholas Everets, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Robert Crouch, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Peter Van Bever, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Henry Hay Knapp, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Lewis Marion Corwin, <i>Secretary,</i>
Daniel Burrell Parks, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Amos Smith Knapp, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Henry Hay Knapp,	Robert Crouch.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Armstutz, Henry Louis	Farmer, William	Ritchie, Silas
Briggs, Sebra	Ford, George Wellman	Sampson, Andrew
Brown, Edgar	Getz, Marcus	Sayward, James Wheaton
Brown, William Reed	Haas, David Leopold	Sterling, Robert Henry
Carver, Dimsdill Burr	Mecklenburg, Joseph	Tucker, Thomas Jefferson
Clark, Samuel Gillman	Olmstead, George Henry	Wines, Chas. Buckley—31.
Ellis, Frederick Plummer		

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS :

Fisher, William Frederick	Horstmeyer, Henry Conrad	Jackson, John A.—3.
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PAST MASTER :

Wright, John Ripley—1.

MARK MASTER :

Hoover, John—1.

WITHDRAWN :

Cogland, John Maxwell—1.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES

Haas, Martin Luther	Stillwagon, Wm. Wilson—2.
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MARTINEZ CHAPTER, No. 31.

Martinez, Contra Costa County.

Stated Meetings, Monday of or next preceding Full Moon.

OFFICERS :

Lewis Cass Wittenmeyer, <i>High Priest,</i>	William Girvan, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Daniel Fraser, <i>King,</i>	Ernest Delplace, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Warren Brown, <i>Scribe,</i>	John Tucker, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Wm. Henry Buckley, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Simon Blum, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Isador Weiss, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	George Atwood Sherman, <i>Secretary,</i>
Solomon Newberger, <i>Royal A. Captain,</i>	Benjamin Coffin Turner, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Thomas Allen Brown,
Hiram Mills,

William Morrill Hales,
Lewis Cass Wittenmeyer.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Baldwin, Barry
Bradbury, William I.
Classen, Henry
Doughty, William
Fassett, Harry Wallbridge
Gallagher, Henry Clay
Gray, James

Hard, Roswell Burt
Lambert, Hiram
Mathews, Felix A.
Moore, John Adams
O'Brien, John Conlin
Ruggles, Charles Augustus
Shepard, Mark

Shreeve, Benjamin
Slitz, John
Swain, George A.
Troy, John Henry
Wall, George
Wiggins, George—35.

PAST MASTER :

Walker, James Toomay—1.

MARK MASTER :

Fernandez, Bernado—1.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Cordell, John—1.

EXCLUDED :

Cruikshank, Wm. Thompson—1.

LOS ANGELES CHAPTER. No. 83.

Los Angeles, Los Angeles County.

Stated Meetings, second Monday in each month.

OFFICERS :

John Quincy Adams Stanley, *High Priest*,
Henry Sayre Orme, *King*,
Francis Pling Fisk Temple, *Scribe*,
Samuel Calvert Toy, *Capt. of the Host*,
Thomas Edwin Rowan, *Prin. Sojourner*,
Samuel Prager, *Royal Arch Captain*,

Morris Moritz, *Master of 3d Vail*,
Geo. Rawson Butler, *Master of 2d Vail*,
Chris. Columbus Higby, *Master 1st Vail*,
Samuel Mayer, *Treasurer*,
James Franklin Burns, *Secretary*,
Herman Neidecken, *Guard*.

Past High Priest :

Abraham Wolf Edelman.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Alanson, Horace S.
Bennett, Silas
Buffum, Wm. Mansfield
Burdick, Thomas H.
Bruning, Henry Nathaniel
Barrows, Henry Dwight
Brunson, Anson
Chapman, William Smyth
Clement, Michael
Davis, Philip
Downey, John Gately
Fleishman, G.
Glenn, James N.
Goller, John
Hamilton, Henry

Hammel, Henry
Hewitt, Eldridge Ed.
Holms, Arthur Child
Holms, James G.
Horan, Andrew
Jackson, Robert Everett
Jacoby, Herman
Jeager, Lewis J. F.
Johnson, Phillip Fred'k
Kohler, Henry
Lambourn, Fred.
Lazzarovich, John
Lecouvreur, Frank
Levy, Michael
Martin, William Thomas

Narbourne, Nath'l Andrews
Parcells, H. S.
Phelps, E. Charles
Portugal, Adolph
Rich, Joseph Anderson
Reed, John
Reynolds, John Jefferson
Rolfe, Henry Cowan
Sainsevain, Michel
Stanway, T. S.
Sweetzer, Charles C.
Thompson, Peter
Weil, Jacob
Weston, Benjamin S.
Workman, William—58.

WITHDRAWN :

Bohen, Daniel Dunlap, Elijah K. Hayes, Russell Thayer—3.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Hobbs, Alexander Wm. Taft, Harley Turner, John—3.

DIED :

Ballard, William M.—1.

ALTURAS CHAPTER, No. 34.

La Porte, Plumas County.

Stated Meetings, first Saturday in each month.

OFFICERS :

Nathan Hosmer Stone, <i>High Priest,</i>	John Hiram Thomas, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Samuel Thompson Brewster, <i>King,</i>	George Patterson, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Peter R. Meikle, <i>Scribe,</i>	John Douglass, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Abel McFarland, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Alex. Hill Crew, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Edwin Stone, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Dixon Brabban, <i>Secretary,</i>
Elias Anderson, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	Roderick Sutherland, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Abel McFarland, Benjamin Wilcox Barnes.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Chittenden, Henry Hatfield	Jones, Joseph Tuckman	Schofield, Miles
Descombes, Francis	Lloyd, John Preston	Small, Jacob
Hart, Anthony Henry	Meikle, William	Smith, Charles
Hendel, Charles Henry	Robinson, John Rose	Stover, John Emmet
Hill, Maxwell Gaddis	Sammons, Benj. Jacob	Ward, William—30.
Jenkins, John Wesley	Schofield, Mark	

NAVAL CHAPTER, No. 35.

Vallejo, Solano County.

Stated Meetings, second Wednesday in each month.

OFFICERS :

Osgood Hilton, <i>High Priest,</i>	Albion Paris Wilson, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Alexander Hopkins Hichborn, <i>King,</i>	Thos. Jefferson Crowley, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Charles Daly, <i>Scribe,</i>	John Thompson, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Jonathan Bond, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	Edward Thompson Starr, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Philip And'w Doyle, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Frank W. Cushing, <i>Secretary,</i>
Benjamin Benas, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Henry Stahl, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

John Mills Browne, Mattison Myers, Philip Andrew Doyle.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Atkinson, Geo. Frederick	Hallin, Christian Theo. B.	Porter, Thomas Alex.
Brown, Frank Edward	Harkison, Charles	Powell, Abraham
Brown, Roswell Homer	Harrington, Daniel	Robinson, Jno. Buckingham
Bruce, Henry	Henderson, Orrington Lunt	Root, Wm. Champion
Burmeister, Fred'k Martin	Higson, Fred'k Delmer	Ross, David Campbell
Carter, James	Hilborn, Samuel Greely	Rounds, George
Carter, William	Hillier, Herman Theodore	Rutherford, David
Chandler, Robert	Hilton, Eben	Snow, Hiram King
Drake, Frank	Hogan, James Rines	Titcomb, John Locke
Dyer, Columbia	Holmes, Ensign Kimball	Toothaker, Harvey Purinton
Edgcombe, Jos. Collins	Mallett, George Fayette	Topley, James
Falls, Richard James	Michael, Geo. Washington	Tripp, William Henry
Frey, John	Miller, Rudolph	Voorhees, Albert Parsons
Frisby, Wm. Edward	Moden, Erick Gabriel	Wilkins, James Malcolm
Garland, Francis	Morse, Charles Alonzo	Willats, Edward Albert
Guffy, Alexander	Phillips, James	Wilson, William C.
Gunning, Alfred Henry	Plaisted, George Pomroy	Wright, Gilbert Lafayette
Haas, Solomon Leon		—66.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTER :

Hickie, William W.—1.

WITHDRAWN :

Dwier, George Joseph	McDougal, Charles J.	Tyrell, John—4.
Hichborn, Philip, Jr.		

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Barbour, Joseph H. King	Miller, George Harrison	Taylor, Byron Isaac
Chapman, Joshua L.	Miller, Peter Brewer	Woods, George Washington
Mackey, Robert Wm.	Rideout, Albert Thackster	—8.

ALAMEDA CHAPTER, No. 36.**Oakland, Alameda County.***Stated Meetings, second and fourth Thursdays in each month.***OFFICERS :**

Nathan Weston Spaulding, <i>High Priest,</i>	James Johnson Porter, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Walter Van Dyke, <i>King,</i>	Ch. Boardman Rutherford, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Enoch Homer Pardee, <i>Scribe,</i>	Solon Henry Mather, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Calvin Call Knowles, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	Foster Berry Tarbett, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Wm. James Gurnett, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	James Edward Ingols, <i>Secretary,</i>
Thomas Hamil Pinkerton, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	William Bowker Ingersoll, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Joseph Bonaparte Scotchler,	John Barton Harden,
Alpheus Fuller Williams,	Nathan Weston Spaulding.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Allardt, George Frederick	Bigelow, Henry Holmes	Cunningham, Parlan R.
Arnold, Thomas Jefferson	Benton, John Elliott	Craib, William
Batchelder, James	Campbell, Fred'k McLean	Crawford, John W.

Denis, Samuel William	Howard, Charles Webb	Pasmore, Edward James
Durant, Henry	Lagrange, Oscar Hugh	Reichling, Francis
Dusenberry, Myr. Thompson	Laidlaw, Walter	Shorey, Albert
Felton, John Brook	Laing, John	Smith, George Frank
Fuller, A. L.	Loring, George York	Stewart, James T.
Goodrich, John Van Buren	Mathews, Henry Edward	Tubbs, Hiram
Gordon, Jas. Smith Gilman	Miller, J. Frank	Walker, George Russell
Hamilton, Laurentine	Miller, Robert Baird	Ward, Robert
Haven, Charles Dwight	Miller, William Henry	Watson, John B.
Havens, John Franklin	Miller, William Noble	Whitney, Geo. Edwin—56.
Hawkett, Arthur Wellington	Murphy, Thomas John	

PAST MASTERS :

Emery, Joseph S. Harmon, John Brown—2.

WITHDRAWN :

Cole, Rector Elisha—1.

SILOAM CHAPTER, No. 37.

Colfax, Placer County.

Stated Meetings, fourth Tuesday in each month.

OFFICERS :

Jacob Hart Neff, <i>High Priest,</i>	David Wright Willard, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Melvin Tyrus Gardner, <i>King,</i>	Leopold Lobner, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
James Beverly Hodgdon, <i>Scribe,</i>	Wm. Brainbridge Storey, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Alex. Gibson Oliver, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	Wm. Barrows Hayford, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Isaac Tibbits Coffin, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Wanton Alfred Himes, <i>Secretary,</i>
Nathan Weston Blanchard, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	Rufus Jenkins Talman, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priest:

Jacob Hart Neff, *G. H. P.*

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Allen, Lorenzo Thomas	Holmes, James	Osborn, Robert Smith
Bradley, Elisha Lafayette	Kopp, Charles Mann	Parks, John Harvy
Caduc, Leland	Kruger, William Henry	Peden, Albert Oliver
Cloudman, Octavius King	Lakamp, John Henry	Thomas, Ephraim Marriner
Endean, William	Murphy, Bernard	Thomas, John Young
Hackett, Henry	Nichols, Thos. Jefferson	Vincent, Nicholas—30.

WITHDRAWN :

Freedman, Adolph—1.

SANTA CRUZ CHAPTER, No. 38.

Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz County.

Stated Meetings, second and fourth Tuesdays in each month.

OFFICERS :

John Nelson Besse, <i>High Priest,</i>	John Morgan Smith, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
John Murray Brown, <i>King,</i>	John Day Chase, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Pierce Bye Fagan, <i>Scribe,</i>	Richard Harrison Hall, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Peter Richmond Hinds, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	Samuel Arnold Bartlett, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Bernhard Wise, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Samuel Wallace Blakely, <i>Secretary,</i>
George Ulener Collins, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	Edmund Wellington, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priest :

John Nelson Besse.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Anthony, George	Grant, John	Lincoln, Charles Henry
Bender, Edward	Haynes, Philip Lyman	McKieman, Charles
Blackburn, Daniel Drew	Hinds, David	Parsons, Jacob
Daubenbiss, John	Horr, John Cortland	Rawson, Asa Warren
Ely, William	Johnson, Frederick	Simon, Ephriam Israel
Fake, George John	Jones, Lorenzo Allen	Skinner, Henry
Felker, William	Lake, George Peter	Williams, Edward Lawrence
Fitch, Edwin		—34.

MARK MASTERS :

Cummings, William Nelson

Poland, Hanson—2.

WITHDRAWN :

Brownstone, David

Gagnow, Michael

Thrift, Andrew—3.

DONNER CHAPTER, No. 39.**Truckee, Nevada County.***Stated Meetings, first and third Mondays in each month.***OFFICERS :**

James Henry Hoadley, <i>High Priest,</i>	George Shaefer, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Elle Ellen, <i>King,</i>	Ulysses Sacretice Dewey, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Jacob Van Duzer Hoag, <i>Scribe,</i>	Aaron Berg, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Samuel Parker, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	Hiram Whitehead Roberts, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Jos. Dearborn Hilton, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	John Thomas Preddy, <i>Secretary,</i>
Patrick McCarthy, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	Ephraim Hogan, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priest :

Aaron Davis Park.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Austin, Thomas	Gaylord, Eben Hills	Marzen, Joseph
Bacon, Benj. Franklin	Graham, Levi Allen	Perrin, Edward Russel
Bell, Robert	Grey, Wm. Cushman	Reando, Julio
Brickel, Edward John	Hamilton, Edward	Rhoda, August John
Butt, Levi Daniel	Hill, William Henry	Schaefer, Edward
Campbell, Wm. Baker	Hoy, James Wellington	Schaefer, George Henry
Courtois, Charles	Jackson, Julius Dunham	Shields, Michael
Doane, Latimer Emery	Joesink, Bern. Hendrikus	Turner, Jacob Perry—37. .

MARK MASTER :

Royal, George—1.

RED BLUFF CHAPTER, No. 40.

Red Bluff, Tehama County.

Stated Meetings, first and third Saturdays after each Full Moon.

OFFICERS :

Adoniram Judson Loomis, <i>High Priest,</i>	George Champlin, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Edward Jefferson Lewis, <i>King,</i>	Marsden Silas Wadsworth, <i>Mast. 2d Vail,</i>
Peter Buck Nagle, <i>Scribe,</i>	Silas Washington Kenney, <i>Mast. 1st Vail,</i>
John Clements, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	Henry Clay Richart, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Rob't Hurd Blossom, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Rememb'ce Hughes Campbell, <i>Secretary,</i>
Francis Miller, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	George Ross, <i>Guard.</i>

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Bettis, Rawson Southerland	Galland, Joseph Barnett	Parker, William Boyd
Cameron, James Strong	Hall, John Stewart	Phillips, John Waterman
Collins, Henry	Jackson, Alex. Bell	Schoenfield, Jeremiah
Copeland, Hosmer Curtis	Merrill, Nathaniel	Stokes, John Gardner
Cone, Joseph Spencer	Misch, Mayer	Thomas, Samuel S.—29.
Elkins, Henry Marrett	Morris, George Franklin	

TEMPLE CHAPTER, No. 41.

Watsonville, Santa Cruz County.

Stated Meetings, first and third Wednesdays in each month.

OFFICERS :

James Martin Rodgers, <i>High Priest,</i>	Wm. George Hudson, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
William Van Doren, <i>King,</i>	Andrew Craig, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
William Wallace Ross, <i>Scribe,</i>	Michael Gagnon, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
James Waters, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	James Ingham, <i>Treasurer,</i>
David Brownstone, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Charles Lewis Thomas, <i>Secretary,</i>
Alexander Chalmers, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Henry Weston Friermuth, <i>Guard.</i>

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Abbott, Carlisle Stewart	Lyster, Hiram	Putnam, Azro Charlton
Brown, James Hiram	Mank, Edwin Franklin	Stroud, Tracy
Card, George Boardman	Mitchell, Charles Edward	Thrift, Alexander
Flint, Thomas	Morris, Moses	Williamson, William—25.
Landrum, Wm. Merimon		

PAST MASTERS :

Chapman, Jeremiah Sheldon	Look, Prince Hellman	Martin, Enos James—3.
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CHICO CHAPTER, No. 42.

Chico, Butte County.

Stated Meetings, second and fourth Mondays in each month.

OFFICERS :

Rufus Macagah Cochran, <i>High Priest,</i>	Carnot Courtland Mason, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Charles Lewis Pond, <i>King,</i>	Oliver Hazard P. Tanquary, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
William Tomes Turner, <i>Scribe,</i>	Charles Henry Holbrook, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Harrison William Fuller, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	George Foster Jones, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Charles Alton Miller, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Edward Hoole, <i>Secretary,</i>
Robert Emmett Warren, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	Huse Owen Parton, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priest :

Charles Lewis Pond.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Bidwell, John	Harmon, Guilford Lafayette	Stilson, Charles Louis
Bradley, Wm. Leroy	Haughton, Jos. Richardson	Sproul, Samuel Murray
Chapman, Aug. Harley	Leiningen, Obediah	Tilden, Wm. Perigrine
Clark, James Birney	Montgomery, J.W. Bradford	Turner, John Alphonso
Colby, Gilbert Winslow	Montgomery, John Newton	Wayland, Joseph Franklin
Durham, Wm. Wellington	Montgomery, Th. Mitchell	Wetherbee, Ira Alston
Gwynn, Pleasant Medrian	Stevens, Warren Charles	Young, Alexander—33.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS :

Holmes, Henry Preston	Nichols, Edward Cuyler	Walraven, Garrett Wells—3.
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PAST MASTER :

Garner, John Mortimer—1.

SOLANO CHAPTER, No. 43.

Suisun, Solano County.

Stated Meetings, Wednesday of or next preceding Full Moon.

OFFICERS :

William Sewall Wells, <i>High Priest,</i>	Columbus P. Reeves, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
John Baptist Bope, <i>King,</i>	John Robinson, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Sampson Smith, <i>Scribe,</i>	Duke Davis Reeves, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
John Maxwell Coghlan, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	———, <i>Treasurer,</i>
John Tyrrell, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	———, <i>Secretary,</i>
Albert Fred. Knorp, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	William Gustavus Davisson, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priest :

William Sewall Wells.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Chapman, Adeline	Miller, Allen Charles	Perkins, Eben Dorman
Hoyt, George Adolphus	Miller, Meredith Rains	Richardson, Jerome Bonap.
Hoyt, Julian Buel	Nurse, Stephen Kirby	Stewart, Samuel
Hoyt, William Kimball	Owens, Woodford Jr.	Stamper, Joseph Wolf
Marston, Jeremiah Hobbs		—23.

PAST MASTER :

Moore, Arthur—1.

VISALIA CHAPTER, U. D.

Visalia, Tulare County.

Stated Meetings, second and fourth Saturdays in each month.

OFFICERS :

Charles Carroll Strong, <i>High Priest,</i>	William Harland, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Robert Chidley Broder, <i>King,</i>	Theodore Spencer, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Basil Gaither Parker, <i>Scribe,</i>	Richard Chatten, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Benj. Lafayette Conyers, <i>Capt of the Host,</i>	Abram Hunter Murray, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Mathew Eaton, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Samuel Gray Creighton, <i>Secretary,</i>
Jeremiah Parker, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	———, <i>Guard.</i>

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Baker, Martin	Carothers, Samuel	Jordon, Francis
Broder, Andrew Henderson	Grussenmyer, Jos. F's M'n	Kelly, Thomas Almaren
Byrd, Pleasant	Johnson, Thomas Price	Stoneman, Finis Ewing—20.

PAST MASTERS :

Henry, Albert Reece

Wells Morgan James—2.

LIST OF CHAPTERS NOW IN EXISTENCE,

WITH A SUMMARY OF THEIR RETURNS FOR THE TERM, TWELVE MONTHS, ENDING JANUARY 31, A. I. 2402.

NAMES OF CHAPTERS.	PLACE OF LOCATION.		DATE WHEN CHARTER WAS ORDERED.	Marked.	Passed.	Received.	Exalted.	Affiliated.	Restored.	Withdrawn.	Susp. for non- payt of dues.	Sup. Un. Con.	Excluded.	Expelled.	Died.	Rejected.	M. Masters.	Past Masters.	M.E. Masters.	R. A. Masons.
	TOWN.	COUNTY.																		
1 SAN FRANCISCO,.....	San Francisco.....	San Francisco,.....	July 28, 1864.	21	21	21	14	3	2	3	4	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	3	105
2 SONORA,.....	Sonora,.....	Tuolumne,.....	" "	3	3	3	14	2	2	2	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	54
3 SACRAMENTO,.....	Sacramento,.....	Sacramento,.....	" "	7	7	7	6	1	.	8	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	2	1	144
4 EL DORADO,.....	El Dorado,.....	El Dorado,.....	April 30, 1855.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.
5 CALIFORNIA,.....	San Francisco,.....	San Francisco,.....	" "	19	21	21	18	4	3	11	.	.	2	.	6	.	.	.	3	211
6 NEVADA,.....	Nevada,.....	Nevada,.....	" "	6	6	6	6	.	.	3	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	49
7 BENICIA,.....	Benicia,.....	Solano,.....	" "	6	6	6	6	.	.	3	.	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	31
8 COLUMBIA,.....	Columbia,.....	Tuolumne,.....	" "	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
9 SHASTA,.....	Shasta,.....	Shasta,.....	" "	3	3	3	3	.	.	1	6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	47
10 FOREST,.....	Forest City,.....	Sierra,.....	" "	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
11 SUTTER,.....	Jackson,.....	Amador,.....	May 3, 1856.	6	6	8	7	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	54
12 CALAVERAS,.....	Copperopolis,.....	Calaveras,.....	" "	3	3	2	2	.	.	3	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	2	.	30
13 WASHINGTON,.....	Marysville,.....	Yuba,.....	" "	21	20	18	17	3	.	5	.	.	1	.	1	2	2	2	5	90
14 HOWARD,.....	San Jose,.....	Santa Clara,.....	" "	3	3	4	6	4	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	63
15 CYRUS,.....	Yreka,.....	Siakiyou,.....	" "	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	1	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	54
16 ST. JAMES,.....	Placerville,.....	El Dorado,.....	May 8, 1857.	6	6	3	3	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	.	2	.	.	22
17 LIBANUS,.....	Iowa Hill,.....	Placer,.....	" "	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	.	2	.	.	27
18 GRASS VALLEY,.....	Grass Valley,.....	Nevada,.....	May 7, 1858.	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	.	.	.	.	1	.	2	2	.	65
19 TRINITY,.....	Weaverville,.....	Trinity,.....	" "	1	1	1	1	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	18
20 FRANKLIN,.....	Oroville,.....	Butte,.....	" "	.	.	.	.	.	.	8	.	.	.	.	1	.	2	1	.	40
21 SIERRA,.....	Downieville,.....	Sierra,.....	" "	4	4	2	3	2	.	1	6	.	.	.	1	2	.	1	.	46
22 PETALUMA,.....	Petaluma,.....	Sonoma,.....	" "	2	2	2	4	1	1	3	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	48
23 OLIVER,.....	Forest Hill,.....	Placer,.....	May 6, 1859.	3	3	3	3	.	2	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	36
24 LA FAYETTE,.....	Camptonville,.....	Yuba,.....	" "	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	18
25 GEORGETOWN,.....	Georgetown,.....	El Dorado,.....	May 4, 1860.	3	3	3	3	.	.	2	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	19
26 OAKLAND,.....	Oakland,.....	Alameda,.....	" 5,	1	.	.	.	1	.	4	.	.	1	.	1	.	1	.	.	64
27 DELTA,.....	Auburn,.....	Placer,.....	May 10, 1861.	.	.	2	2	.	.	3	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	1	20
28 STOCKTON,.....	Stockton,.....	San Joaquin,.....	" "	3	3	3	3	5	1	3	1	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	81

GRAND OFFICERS

Elected since the Organization of the Grand Chapter, July 28, A. I. 2384.

1854.

CHARLES M. RADCLIFF, *Grand High Priest.* A. B. HOY, *Grand King.*
JOHN D. CREIGH, *Dep. Grand High Priest.* HUGH G. PLATT, *Grand Scribe.*

1855.

JOHN D. CREIGH, . . . *Grand High Priest.* WILLIAM W. TRAYLOR, *Grand King.*
ISAAC DAVIS, . . . *Dep. Grand High Priest.* LEVERETT BRADLEY, *Grand Scribe.*

1856.

ORANGE H. DIBBLE, . . . *Grand High Priest.* WHITING G. WEST, *Grand King.*
WM. W. TRAYLOR, *Dep. Grand High Priest.* JAMES A. JACKSON, *Grand Scribe.*

1857.

WILLIAM W. TRAYLOR, *Grand High Priest.* WHITING G. WEST, *Grand King.*
THOS. H. CASWELL, *Dep. Grand High Priest.* JAMES A. JACKSON, *Grand Scribe.*

1858.

THOMAS H. CASWELL, *Grand High Priest.* JAMES A. JACKSON, *Grand King.*
WHITING G. WEST, *Dep. Grand High Priest.* *HENRY HARE HARTLEY, . . . *Grand Scribe.*

1859.

WHITING G. WEST, . . . *Grand High Priest.* AARON D. PARK, *Grand King.*
*H. H. HARTLEY, *Dep. Grand High Priest.* LEWIS REYNOLDS, *Grand Scribe.*

1860.

*HENRY H. HARTLEY, . . *Grand High Priest.* JAMES W. BICKNELL, *Grand King.*
ADOLPHUS HOLLUB, *Dep. Grand High Priest.* EZRA HOWARD VAN DECAR, *Grand Scribe.*

1861.

*HENRY H. HARTLEY, . . *Grand High Priest.* EZRA HOWARD VAN DECAR, *Grand King.*
ADOLPHUS HOLLUB, *Dep. Grand High Priest.* JOHN KIRKPATRICK, *Grand Scribe.*

1862.

ADOLPHUS HOLLUB, . . *Grand High Priest.* JOHN KIRKPATRICK, *Grand King.*
EZRA H. VAN DECAR, *Dep. Gr. High Priest.* CHARLES MARSH, *Grand Scribe.*

1863.

EZRA H. VAN DECAR, . . *Grand High Priest.* CHARLES MARSH, *Grand King.*
JOHN KIRKPATRICK, *Dep. Gr. High Priest.* WILLIAM A. DAVIES, *Grand Scribe.*

1864.

*ISAAC DAVIS, *Grand High Priest.* CHARLES MARSH, *Grand King.*
JOHN KIRKPATRICK, *Dep. Gr. High Priest.* WILLIAM A. DAVIES, *Grand Scribe.*

1865.

JOHN KIRKPATRICK, . . *Grand High Priest.* WILLIAM A. DAVIES, *Grand King.*
CHARLES MARSH, *Dep. Grand High Priest.* ISAAC S. TITUS, *Grand Scribe.*

* Deceased.

List of Grand Officers.

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1866.

CHARLES MARSH, *Grand High Priest.* ISAAC S. TITUS, *Grand King.*
WM. A. DAVIES, . *Dep. Grand High Priest.* JOHN W. HARVILLE, *Grand Scribe.*

1867.

ISAAC S. TITUS, *Grand High Priest.* JOHN W. HARVILLE, *Grand King.*
JAMES A. JACKSON, *Dep. Gr. High Priest.* GEORGE T. GRIMES, *Grand Scribe.*

1868.

JOHN W. HARVILLE, . *Grand High Priest.* JAS. LAWRENCE ENGLISH, . . . *Grand King.*
GEORGE T. GRIMES, *Dep. Gr. High Priest.* JACOB H. NEFF, *Grand Scribe.*

1870.

GEORGE T. GRIMES, . . *Grand High Priest.* JACOB H. NEFF, *Grand King.*
JAS. LAWR. ENGLISH, . *Dep. Gr. H. Priest.* STEPHEN WING, *Grand Scribe.*

1871.

JAS. L. ENGLISH, . . . *Grand High Priest.* STEPHEN WING, *Grand King.*
JACOB H. NEFF, *Dep. Gr. H. Priest.* JOSEPH ISAACS, *Grand Scribe.*

1872.

JACOB H. NEFF, . . . *Grand High Priest.* WM. THOMAS REYNOLDS, . . . *Grand King.*
JOSEPH ISAACS, *Dep. Gr. H. Priest.* WM. ALEX. JANUARY, *Grand Scribe.*

GRAND CHAPTERS

IN COMMUNICATION WITH THE

GRAND CHAPTER OF CALIFORNIA.

Grand Chapters.	Grand Secretaries.	Residence.
ALABAMA,.....	DANIEL SAYKE,.....	Montgomery.
ARKANSAS,.....	LUKE E. BARBER,.....	Little Rock.
CANADA,	THOMAS BIRD HARRIS,.....	Hamilton.
CONNECTICUT,.....	JOSEPH K. WHEELER,.....	New Haven.
DELAWARE,.....	WM. F. GOODWIN,.....	Milford.
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,....	NOBLE D. LARNER,.....	Washington.
ENGLAND AND WALES,....	JOHN HERVEY,.....	London.
FLORIDA,	W. M. MCINTOSH,.....	Pensacola.
GEORGIA,.....	J. E. BLACKSHEAR,.....	Savannah
ILLINOIS,	JAMES H. MILES,.....	Chicago.
IOWA,.....	WILLIAM B. LANGRIDGE,.....	Muscatine.
KANSAS,	ERASMUS T. CARR,.....	Fort Leavenworth
KENTUCKY,	PHILIP SWIGERT,.....	Frankfort.
LOUISIANA,.....	JAMES C. BATCHELOR,.....	New Orleans.
MAINE,.....	IRA BERRY,	Portland.
MARYLAND,	WILLIAM A. WENTZ,.....	Baltimore.
MASSACHUSETTS,	ALFRED F. CHAPMAN,.....	Boston.
MINNESOTA,.....	WILLIAM S. COMBS,.....	St. Paul.
MISSISSIPPI,	J. L. POWER,.....	Menden.
MISSOURI,.....	GEO. FRANK GOULEY,....	St. Louis.
NEBRASKA,.....	ROBERT W. FURNASS, ..	Omaha.
NEW HAMPSHIRE,.....	HORACE CHASE,.....	Hopkinton.
NEW JERSEY,.....	JOHN WOLVERTON,.....	Trenton.
NEW YORK,.....	CHRISTOPHER G. FOX,.....	Albany.
NORTH CAROLINA,.....	THOMAS B. CARE,.....	Wilmington.
NOVA SCOTIA,.....	JAMES GOSSIP,.....	Halifax.
OHIO,.....	JAMES NESBIT,.....	Cincinnati.
OREGON,	R. P. EARHEART,.....	Salem.
PENNSYLVANIA,	JOHN THOMPSON,.....	Philadelphia.
RHODE ISLAND,	GEORGE H. BURNHAM,.....	Providence.
SOUTH CAROLINA,.....	AUGUSTINE SMYTHE,.....	Charleston.
TENNESSEE,	JOHN FRIZELL,.....	Nashville.
TEXAS,.....	ROBERT BREWSTER,.....	Houston.
WISCONSIN,.....	WILLIAM T. PALMER,.....	Milwaukee.

GRAND CONVENTION
OF THE
ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTS
OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL CONVOCATION.

The thirteenth Annual Grand Convention of the Order of High Priests of the State of California, assembled at the Masonic Temple, in the city of San Francisco, on Wednesday, the tenth day of April, 1872, at eight o'clock, P. M.

There were present the following

OFFICERS :

The *M. E.* SAMUEL GRAVES,.....*President ;*
" *R. E.* WILLIAM WILSON TRAYLOR,.....*Vice President ;*
" *R. E.* JAMES LAWRENCE ENGLISH,.....*Chaplain ;*
" *R. E.* CHARLES MARSH,.....*Treasurer ;*
" *R. E.* THEODORE EDWARD SMITH,.....*Recorder ;*
" *R. E.* JOHN WILLIAM HARVILLE,.....*Master of Ceremonies ;*
" *R. E.* CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,.....*Steward.*

Also, Companions JOHN NELSON BENNE, ROBERT CROUCH, WILLIAM ALEX. JANUARY, THOMAS KYLE, JOHN ERNEST KUNKLER, SAMUEL POWELL LAWSON, WM. THOMPSON LUTHER, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN MYERS, ALVIN BACON PRESTON, JOSEPH BONAPARTE SCOTCHLER, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN TUTTLE, WILLIAM SEWALL WELLS, JEREMIAH ELKEN WHITCHER, HENRY HAY KNAPP.

The *M. E.* President made the following appointments, *pro tempore* :—

Comp. JOSEPH BONAPARTE SCOTCHLER,.....*Conductor ;*
" ALVIN BACON PRESTON,.....*Herald :*

And the Convention was opened in *Due Form.*

The reading of the minutes of the proceedings had at the last Annual Convention was dispensed with, the members being furnished with printed copies thereof.

The following was read by the Recorder :—

Grand Convention of High Priests.

MASONIC TEMPLE, SAN FRANCISCO, }
 Wednesday, June 14, 1871. }

Special Convention of the Order of High Priests was held at the place above named at eight o'clock, P. M.

There were present the following

OFFICERS :

The M.: E.: SAMUEL GRAVES,.....*President* ;
 " R.: E.: WILLIAM WILSON TRAYLOR,.....*Vice President* ;
 " R.: E.: JAMES LAWRENCE ENGLISH,.....*Chaplain* ;
 " R.: E.: THEODORE EDWARD SMITH,....*Recorder* :

Also, Companions GEORGE TUTTLE GRIMES, JOHN ERNEST KUNKLER, WM. THOMAS REYNOLDS.

The M.: E.: President made the following appointments, *pro tempore* :—

Comp. GEORGE TUTTLE GRIMES,.....*Conductor* ;
 " JOHN ERNEST KUNKLER,.....*Herald* :

And the Convention was opened in *Due Form*.

Comp. JOHN MILLS BROWNE, Past High Priest of *Naval* Chapter, No. 35, who was elected at the last Annual Convocation, was introduced and received the Order of High Priest.

The Convention was then closed.

THEODORE EDWARD SMITH,
Secretary.

On motion, the action of the Special Convention referred to, was approved and ordered to be placed on record.

Petitions were received from the following named companions :—

JOHN FRANCIS SNOW,.....	High Priest, <i>California</i>	- Chapter, No. 5;
DANIEL PORTER BYSTLE,.....	" " <i>Shasta</i>	" " 9;
CHARLES FAYETTE LOTT,.....	P. H. Priest, <i>Franklin</i>	" " 20;
EDWIN RANSOM DAVIS,.....	" " <i>Sierra</i>	" " 21;
RICHARD MUNT,.....	" " <i>Lafayette</i>	" " 24;
WILLIAM ROUSH,.....	" " <i>Georgetown</i>	" " 25;
HENRY WARREN RUSSELL,.....	High Priest, "	" " 25;
GEORGE MANSFIELD BLAKE,.....	" " <i>Oakland</i>	" " 26;
JOHN QUINCY ADAMS STANLEY,.....	" " <i>Los Angeles</i>	" " 33;
NATHAN HOSMER STONE,.....	" " <i>Alturas</i>	" " 34;
RALPH ELLIS,.....	" " <i>Napa</i>	" " 30;
OSGOOD HILTON,.....	" " <i>Naval</i>	" " 35;
JAMES HENRY HOADLEY,.....	" " <i>Donner</i>	" " 39;
JAMES MARTIN RODGERS,.....	" " <i>Temple</i>	" " 41;

Who were severally elected to receive the order of High Priest.

A petition was received from Comp. WILLARD SMITH SPEAR, Past High Priest of *Jefferson City* Chapter, No. 34, Royal Arch Masons, Jefferson City, Missouri, accompanied by a certificate in due form from the Secretary of said Chapter.

The candidate was ballotted for, and elected.

All of the above named companions were then severally introduced and received the order of High Priest.

The following named companions were then elected officers for the ensuing year:—

The M.: E.: WILLIAM WILSON TRAYLOR,.....*President;*
“ R.: E.: JAMES LAWRENCE ENGLISH,.....*Vice President;*
“ R.: E.: ALVIN BACON PRESTON,.....*Chaplain;*
“ R.: E.: CHARLES MARSH,.....*Treasurer;*
“ R.: E.: THEODORE EDWARD SMITH,.....*Recorder;*
“ R.: E.: JOHN WILLIAM HARVILLE,.....*Master of Ceremonies;*
“ R.: E.: JOSEPH B. SCOTCHLER,*Conductor;*
“ R.: E.: WILLIAM ROUSH,*Herald;*
“ R.: E.: JOHN ERNEST KUNKLER,.....*Steward.*

There being no further business, the Convention was closed in Due form.

ATTEST :

THEODORE EDWARD SMITH,
Recorder.

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

OF THE

GRAND CONVENTION OF HIGH PRIESTS.

OFFICERS :

William Wilson Traylor, <i>President,</i> Jas. Lawrence English, <i>Vice President,</i> Alvin Bacon Preston, <i>Chaplain,</i> Charles Marsh, <i>Treasurer,</i>	Theodore Edward Smith, <i>Recorder,</i> John Wm. Harville, <i>Master of Ceremonies,</i> Joseph Bonaparte Scotchler, <i>Conductor,</i> William Roush, <i>Herald,</i> John Ernest Kunkler, <i>Steward.</i>
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MEMBERS :

Abell, Alexander Gurdon Akerly, Benjamin Bacon, Eli Griffith Barss, Frederick Ferdinand Bicknell, James William Blair, Charles Macmurdo Bond, Joshua Lester Brady, Alex. Buchanan Brown, Josiah Perkins Brown, Thomas Allen Burke, John Martin Bystle, David Porter Besse, John Nelson Blake, George Mansfield Cafflow, Thomas Caswell, Thomas Hubbard Claiborne, Gilbert Burnett Cohn, Louis Crandall, John Riggs Creigh, John Dunbar Crouch, Robert Dobrowsky, Adolph Dods, James Doncaster, Richard Jr. Doncaster, Samuel Davis, Edwin Ransom Ellis, Ralph Foster, Francis Graves, Samuel Gilbert, George Heirn Glover, James Russell Goss, Leonard Graham, Thomas Jefferson Grimes, George Tuttle Harden, John B. Hayes, Russell Thayer	Hayward, Alvinza Hedges, Edward Richard Hewson, John Bankson Hollub, Adolphus Hilton, Osgood Hoadley, James Henry Isaacs, Joseph January, William Alex. Joy, Alex. Cartwright Jump, Alembly Kingsley, James Forman Kirkpatrick, John Knapp, Henry Hay Knox, William Franklin Kyle, Thomas Kunkler, John Ernest Laidley, James Lanphier, Gilbert Lawrence, William Lee Lawson, Samuel Powell Luther, Wm. Thompson Lyon, William Henry Lott, Charles Fayette Mason, John Clifton McCormick, William McFarland, Abel McMurry, Valentine Menzies, Stewart Millington, John Myres, Benjamin Franklin Myrick, Milton Hills Munt, Richard Neville, John M. Newton, William Davis G'Rear, Benjamin Threlkeld Parkhurst, Russell	Park, Aaron Davis Peck, Henry Perkins, George Washington Prassa, Francis Anthony Raynes, Alonzo Emery Ream, Daniel Reynolds, Wm. Thomas Rich, William Clinton Rolfe, Tallman Hathaway Ross, James Ryan, William Ryan Roush, William Russell, Henry Warren Rodgers, James Martin Sage, Timothy Seely, John A. Siesbuttel, Alexander Singley, James Stone, Charles E. Spaulding, Nathan Weston Spear, Willard Smith Snow, John Francis Stone, Nathan Hosmer Stanley, Jno. Quincy Adams Tinnin, Wiley James Titus, Isaac Sutvene Turner, Jared Tuttle, Benjamin Franklin Walker, George Russell Warner, Henry Wells, William Sewell Weymouth, James Lambert Williams, Alpheus Fuller Whitcher, Jere. Elken Wing, Stephen Winterburn, Geo. Howard
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Address of the Grand High Priest:

JACOB HART NEFF, Auburn.

Address of the Grand Secretary:

CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, San Francisco.

Address of the Grand Lecturer:

THOS. HUBBARD CASWELL, Nevada.

NOTICE.

The Nineteenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of California will be holden at the Masonic Temple, in the City of San Francisco, commencing on the second Tuesday in April, A. I. 2403, A. D. 1873.

CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,
Grand Secretary.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND CHAPTER

OF

Royal Arch Masons

OF THE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

SAN FRANCISCO:

FRANK EASTMAN, PRINTER, 509 CLAY STREET.

1873.

Grand Chapter of California.

I, CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of California, do hereby certify that the following pages contain a true and faithful transcript of the proceedings of that Body, at its Nineteenth Annual Convocation, commenced at the city of San Francisco on Tuesday, the eighth day of April, A. D. 1873, A. I. 2403, and of the returns of the subordinate Chapters and other matters authorized to be published.



In Testimony Whereof,

I have hereunto appended my official signature, and have affixed the Seal of the Grand Chapter of California, this twenty-fourth day of April, A. D. 1873, A. I. 2403.

Chas. Louis Wiggin
Grand Secy.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND CHAPTER



OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA,
AT ITS
NINETEENTH ANNUAL CONVOCATION,

HELD AT THE
MASONIC TEMPLE, IN THE CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO,
COMMENCED ON
TUESDAY, APRIL 8, A. D. 1873, A. I. 2403,

AND TERMINATED ON
THURSDAY, APRIL 10, A. D. 1873, A. I. 2403.

SAN FRANCISCO:
FRANK EASTMAN, PRINTER, 509 CLAY STREET.
1873.

GRAND OFFICERS
OF THE
Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons
OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

*For the year commencing April, A. I. 2403, and ending April,
A. I. 2404.*

M. E. WM. ABRAHAM DAVIES, ... GRAND HIGH PRIEST, *Stockton*;
R. E. JOSEPH ISAACS, DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIEST, .. *Shasta* ;
R. E. WM. THOMAS REYNOLDS, .. GRAND KING, *San Francisco* ;
R. E. WM. ALEX. JANUARY, GRAND SCRIBE, *San Jose* ;
R. E. JOS. BON. SCOTCHLER, ... GRAND TREASURER, *San Francisco* ;
R. E. CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, .. GRAND SECRETARY, *San Francisco* ;
R. E. JOHN ELLIOTT BENTON, .. GRAND CHAPLAIN, *Oakland* ;
E. HENRY HAY KNAPP, GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE HOST, *Napa* ;
E. NATHAN W. SPAULDING, .. GRAND ROYAL ARCH CAPTAIN, *Oakland* ;
Comp. SAMUEL DAVID MAYER, .. GRAND ORGANIST, *San Francisco* ;
" IRA COLBURN ROOT, GRAND GUARD, *San Francisco*.

GRAND LECTURER:

M. E. THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL, *Nevada*.

GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

NINETEENTH ANNUAL CONVOCAATION.

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of California commenced its Nineteenth Annual Convocation at the Masonic Temple, in the city of San Francisco, on Tuesday, the eighth day of April, A. D. 1873, A. I. 2403, at ten o'clock, A. M.

Upon calling the roll of members there were found present the following—

GRAND OFFICERS :

The *M. E.* JACOB HART NEFF,.....*Grand High Priest ;*
 “ *R. E.* JOSEPH ISAAOS,.....*Dep. Grand High Priest ;*
 “ *R. E.* WILLIAM THOMAS REYNOLDS,.....*Grand King ;*
 “ *R. E.* JOSEPH BONAPARTE SCOTCHLER,.. ..*Grand Treasurer ;*
 “ *R. E.* CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,.....*Grand Secretary ;*
 “ *R. E.* THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL,..... *Grand Lecturer ;*
 “ *R. E.* HENRY HAY KNAPP,.....*Grand Capt. of the Host ;*
 “ *R. E.* NATHAN WESTON SPAULDING,.....*Grand Royal Arch Capt. ;*
 Comp. SAMUEL DAVID MAYER,.....*Grand Organist ;*
 “ IRA COLBURN ROOT,.....*Grand Guard.*

PAST GRAND OFFICERS :

The *M. E.* JOHN DUNBAR ORRIGH,.....*Past Grand High Priest ;*
 “ *M. E.* THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL,..... “ “ “ “
 “ *M. E.* JOHN KIRKPATRICK,..... “ “ “ “
 “ *M. E.* CHARLES MARSH,..... “ “ “ “
 “ *M. E.* JOHN WILLIAM HARVILLE,..... “ “ “ “
 “ *M. E.* GEORGE TUTTLE GRIMES,..... “ “ “ “
 “ *R. E.* WILLIAM ABRAHAM DAVIES.....*Past Dep. G. High Priest ;*
 “ *R. E.* STEPHEN WING,.....*Past Grand King ;*
 “ *R. E.* JAMES WITHERSPOON BICKNELL,..... “ “ “

And the representatives of thirty-five chartered Chapters, with delegates from three under dispensation, together with a number of Past High Priests, by service under this jurisdiction, entitled to seats.

The Grand High Priest filled the vacant stations by the appointment of—

Comp. JOHN ERNEST KUNKLER,.....as.....Grand Scribe ;
 " JOHN ELLIOTT BENTON,.....as.....Grand Chaplain :

And there being a sufficient representation present, the Grand Chapter of California was opened in Ample Form, with music by the choir and prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The reading of the minutes at the last Annual Convocation was dispensed with, the members being furnished with printed copies thereof.

The Grand High Priest announced the following committee—

On Credentials :..... { Comp. Alvin Bacon Preston,
 " Theodore Edwin Smith,
 " William Monroe Petrie.

After a brief recess the committee presented the following report of officers of the chartered Chapters, or their duly appointed proxies, and Past High Priests, by service within this jurisdiction, as present and entitled to seats, viz : from

<i>San Francisco</i> ,...No. 1,....	{ THEODORE EDWARD SMITH, High Priest and Past H.P. ; SAMUEL STERNHEIM, King ; JOHN DUNBAR CREIGH, } Past High Priests. LOUIS COHN,
<i>Sonora</i> ,.....No. 2,....	{ EDWIN ALDRICH RODGERS, High Priest ; ALVIN BACON PRESTON, King ; STEPHEN WING, Past High Priest.
<i>Sacramento</i> ,.....No. 3,....	{ WILLIAM MONROE PETRIE, High Priest ; POWELL SAMUEL LAWSON, Past High Priest.
<i>California</i> ,No. 5,....	{ HIRAM THROOP GRAVES, High Priest ; ALFRED COOLIDGE WAITT, King ; CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, GEORGE TUTTLE GRIMES, WILLIAM THOMAS REYNOLDS, JOHN FRANCIS SNOW, } Past High Priests. JAMES LAIDLEY, JOHN WILLIAM HARVILLE, THOMAS KYLE,
<i>Nevada</i> ,.....No. 6,....	{ THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL, Past High Priest ; CHARLES MARSH, Past High Priest.
<i>Benicia</i> ,.....No. 7,.....	TIMOTHY SAGE, High Priest and Past High Priest.
<i>Shasta</i> ,.....No. 9,....	{ DANIEL POTTER BYSTLE, High Priest and Past H. P. ; JOSEPH ISAACS, Past High Priest.
<i>Sutter</i> ,.....No. 11,.....	HENRY PECK, High Priest and Past High Priest.
<i>Washington</i> ,.....No. 13,.....	CHARLES E. STONE, High Priest and Past High Priest.
<i>Howard</i> ,.....No. 14,.....	WILLIAM ALEXANDER JANUARY, High Priest.
<i>Cyrus</i> ,.....No. 15,.....	SAMUEL PELLET, Representative.

<i>St. James</i> ,.....	No. 16,.....	GEORGE HEIRN GILBERT, High Priest and Past H. P.
<i>Grass Valley</i> ,....	No. 18,.....	REUBEN LEECH, High Priest and Past High Priest.
<i>Trinity</i> ,.....	No. 19,.....	WILEY JAMES TINNIN, High Priest and Past H. P.
<i>Franklin</i> ,.....	No. 20,.....	THOMAS CALLOW, High Priest and Past High Priest.
<i>Sierra</i> ,	No. 21,.....	WILLIAM THOMPSON LUTHER, High Priest and P. H. P.
<i>Petaluma</i> ,.....	No. 22,.....	OSCAR VALENTINE WALKER, High Priest.
<i>Oliver</i> ,.....	No. 23,....	{ AMBROSE HALL COWDEN, High Priest ; JOSEPH TRAIL MIDDLETON, King.
<i>La Fayette</i> ,.....	No. 24,.....	RICHARD MUNT, High Priest and Past High Priest.
<i>Georgetown</i> ,....	No. 25,....	{ GEORGE WASHINGTON HUNTER, High Priest ; JOHN ERNEST KUNKLER, Past High Priest.
<i>Oakland</i> ,	No. 26,....	{ THATCHER PETER WALES, High Priest and Past H. P. ; JEREMIAH ELKEN WHITCHER, Past High Priest.
<i>Delta</i> ,.....	No. 27,....	{ BENJAMIN FRANKLIN MYRES, High Priest and P. H. P. ; JOHN RIGGS CRANDALL, Past High Priest.
<i>Stockton</i> ,	No. 28,.....	WILLIAM ABRAHAM DAVIES, Past High Priest.
<i>Manzanita</i> ,.....	No. 29,....	{ JOHN STORER McBBIDE, High Priest and Past High P. ; JOHN AMBROSE SEELY, Past High Priest.
<i>Napa</i> ,.....	No. 30,	HENRY HAY KNAPP, High Priest and Past High Priest.
<i>Los Angeles</i> ,....	No. 33,.....	HENRY SAYRE ORME, High Priest.
<i>Alturas</i>	No. 34,.....	ELIAS ANDERSON, High Priest.
<i>Naval</i> ,.....	No. 35,....	{ ALEXANDER HOPKINS HICHBORN, High Priest ; MATTISON MYERS, Past High Priest.
<i>Alameda</i> ,.....	No. 36,...	{ NATHAN WESTON SPAULDING, High Priest and P. H. P. ; WALTER LAIDLAW, King.
<i>Siloam</i> ,.....	No. 37,....	{ MELVIN SYMS GARDNER, High Priest ; JACOB HART NEFF, Past High Priest.
<i>Santa Cruz</i> ,.....	No. 38,.....	WILLIAM FELKER, Scribe.
<i>Donner</i> ,	No. 39,.....	JAMES HENRY HOADLEY, High Priest and Past High P.
<i>Red Bluff</i> ,.....	No. 40,.....	ADONIRAM JUDSON LOOMIS, High Priest and Past H. P.
<i>Temple</i> ,.....	No. 41,.....	JAMES MARTIN RODGERS, Past High Priest and Rep.
<i>Ohico</i> ,.....	No. 42,.....	CHARLES LEWIS POND, High Priest and Past High P.
<i>Solano</i> ,.....	No. 43,.....	WILLIAM SEWALL WELLS, High Priest and Past H. P.
<i>Visalia</i> ,.....	U. D.,....	ROBERT CHIDLEY BRODER, Delegate.
<i>Santa Rosa</i> ,.....	U. D.,.....	ELIJAH THOMPSON FARMER, Delegate.
<i>Woodland</i> ,.....	U. D.,.....	THOMAS CROSS POCKMAN, Delegate.
Making thirty-six chartered Chapters and three under dispensation.		

Which report was concurred in, and the companions therein named were admitted to seats.

The Grand High Priest then delivered his Annual Address to the Grand Chapter of California, as follows :—

COMPANIONS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF CALIFORNIA :

Again, through the protection and mercy of the Great I Am, are we permitted to assemble in Annual Convocation to deliberate and counsel together how best to promote the interest and good of the Royal Craft in this jurisdiction. But before enter-

ing upon this great and important undertaking let us humbly return our thanks to the Supreme High Priest of the Universe, through whose merciful kindness we are permitted to assemble around our Holy Altar, and who has vouchsafed to us another year of peace and prosperity.

Since our last assembling together, our State has been unusually prosperous: the husbandman has reaped his bountiful harvest, our mines have yielded their golden treasures abundantly, and it affords me pleasure to report to you that our noble Order has kept pace with this general prosperity. "Peace reigns within our walls and prosperity within our palaces." I regret that business of a private nature during the past year has prevented me from visiting many of the subordinate Chapters; those however that I have had the pleasure of visiting, I am pleased to say were found to be in a prosperous and harmonious condition. It will be found, by reference to the report of the Grand Secretary, that the increase of members during the past year has been fully as large as in any former year since the organization of this Grand Chapter.

Soon after the close of our last Annual Convocation I appointed the *M.: E.:* THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL Grand Lecturer, knowing him to be competent to teach the work and lectures heretofore adopted by this Grand Chapter, and who will submit to you a report of his official acts during the year.

A charter having been granted at the last Annual Convocation to *Solano* Chapter, No. 43, I issued, on the fourth day of May, my authorization to the *R.: E. Companion* CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, to constitute said Chapter. In accordance with a resolution adopted by this Grand Chapter, I issued my authorization to Comp. CHARLES FAYETTE LOTT, Past High Priest of *Franklin* Chapter, No. 20, to hold an election of officers in *Quincy* Chapter, No. 32; and on the eleventh day of May I issued a summons to the members of said Chapter to attend a meeting thereof, on the first day of June, 1872, for that purpose, all of which was promptly attended to, and a report thereof submitted by the companion named.

During the month of June last I was informed by the Secretary of *Temple* Chapter, No. 41, of certain irregularities existing in said Chapter, in consequence of the questionable Masonic standing of the High Priest thereof, he not being a member of any Lodge within this jurisdiction, neither was he contributing any sum whatever to any Lodge; and after a careful investigation of all the facts in the case, I decided that he was ineligible to the position, and declared the office vacant, and, upon petition, granted a dispensation to hold an election to fill the vacancy.

In consequence of the inclemency of the weather, *Santa Cruz* Chapter, No. 38, failed to hold its election for officers within the time prescribed by our Constitution. I therefore, upon petition, granted a dispensation, authorizing them to hold an election on the twenty-first day of January, 1873.

I have granted dispensations for the formation of three new Chapters,—one at Rough and Ready, Siskiyou County, to be called *Mount Carmel* Chapter, one at Santa Rosa, in Sonoma County, to be called *Santa Rosa* Chapter, and one at Woodland, Yolo County, to be called *Woodland* Chapter. In each case all of the constitutional requirements were fully complied with, and from my personal knowledge of their location, and the character of the companions constituting them, I am convinced that they will do honor to this Grand Chapter. In the case of *Woodland* Chapter, I was personally present, and assisted in its organization, and, upon due petition from the council thereof, granted my dispensation to ballot upon petitions without the usual reference to a committee, being fully satisfied that the interests of Royal Arch Masonry would be benefited thereby. I have also at various times approved sundry amendments to by-laws, but, as they have generally been only such amendments as would serve to adapt them to the wants of the particular localities, I deem it unnecessary to refer to them further.

On the thirtieth of August I received official notice of the appointment of Comp. GEORGE TUTTLE GRIMES, Past Grand High Priest, as Representative of the Grand Chapter of Mississippi near the Grand Chapter of California; and on the sixth day of September I appointed the R. E. Comp. CHARLES T. MURPHY, of Durant, Mississippi, as Representative of this Grand Body near the Grand Chapter of that State.

On the fourth day of March I appointed Comp. SAMUEL DAVID MAYER, of *California* Chapter, No. 5, Grand Organist of this Grand Chapter.

But few questions of importance were submitted to me for my decision during the year. Those that were submitted, were decided by me in accordance with the usages and customs of this jurisdiction, and to the best of my judgment. All of my official correspondence is now on file in the office of the Grand Secretary.

In consequence of the great expense attendant in procuring the services of the Grand Lecturer, by Chapters located in remote sections of our jurisdiction, and the utter inability of some of those Chapters to meet this expense, and in order that the former efforts of this Grand Chapter in establishing a uniform system of work may be more successfully carried into effect, I would recommend that a reasonable salary be paid the Grand Lecturer by this Grand Chapter; and when any Chapter requiring his services shall employ him, it shall only be necessary for such Chapter to pay the actual expenses in going to and returning from the place where said Chapter is located. And I would further recommend that he be required to visit each Chapter within this jurisdiction at least once a year, and report the condition of every Chapter to the Grand Chapter at the Annual Convocation.

Thus, companions of the Grand Chapter, I have given you an account of my stewardship, and, in conclusion, allow me to say that with much diffidence I accepted the high position to which, by the partiality of my companions, I was called a year since, but trusting to your kindness, and believing that you would look upon any error that inexperience would lead me to commit with charity, I entered upon the discharge of my duties with an eye single only to the peace, harmony, and prosperity of our noble Order; and if I have done aught to advance its interests, and have your approbation, I am fully satisfied; but if I have failed in any particular, then permit me to assure you that it has been an "error of the head and not of the heart." Companions, allow me to express to you my unfeigned thanks for the honor conferred on, and the confidence reposed in me, in selecting me as your Grand High Priest, a position truly exalted when worthily filled. And finally, my companions, be faithful to the trust reposed in you, that when our labors here on earth are ended we may be permitted by the signet of eternal truth to enter the inner vail of the Heavenly Sanctuary to enjoy rest everlasting.

JACOB HART NEFF,

Grand High Priest.

On motion, it was ordered that the Address of the Grand High Priest be referred to a special committee of three.

The Deputy Grand High Priest named as such committee—

On Address of Grand High Priest : { Comp. William Abraham Davies,
" Aaron Judson Loomis,
" Henry Hay Knapp.

Comp. CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, from the Committee on Correspondence, presented the following report, the reading of which was dispensed with, the members being furnished with printed copies :—

To the *M. E. Grand Chapter of California* :—

Your Committee on Correspondence respectfully report that the transactions of thirty-three Grand Chapters have been received, viz :—

ALABAMA, for Dec., . . . 1871	MISSISSIPPI, for Jan., . . . 1872
CANADA, " Aug., . . . 1872	MISSOURI, " Oct., . . . 1872
CONNECTICUT, " May, . . . 1872	NEW HAMPSHIRE, " May, . . . 1872
DELAWARE, " Jan., . . . 1872	NEW JERSEY, " Sept., . . . 1872
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, " Nov., . . . 1871	NEW YORK, " Feb., . . . 1872
GEORGIA, " April, . . . 1872	NORTH CAROLINA, " June, . . . 1872
ILLINOIS, " Oct., . . . 1871	NOVA SCOTIA, " " . . . 1872
INDIANA, " " . . . 1872	OREGON, " " . . . 1872
IOWA, " " . . . 1872	PENNSYLVANIA, " Dec., . . . 1871
KANSAS, " " . . . 1872	SOUTH CAROLINA, " Feb., . . . 1872
KENTUCKY, " " . . . 1872	TENNESSEE, " Nov., . . . 1872
LOUISIANA, " Feb., . . . 1872	TEXAS, " June, . . . 1872
MAINE, " May, . . . 1872	VERMONT, " " . . . 1872
MARYLAND, " Nov., . . . 1872	VIRGINIA, " Dec., . . . 1871
MASSACHUSETTS, " Dec., . . . 1871	WEST VIRGINIA, " Nov., . . . 1871
MICHIGAN, " Jan., . . . 1872	WISCONSIN, " Jan., . . . 1872
MINNESOTA, " " . . . 1872	

We regret that the proceedings of some of our sister Grand Bodies have failed to reach us, while a few have come to hand so lately that we have had no time to review them. The transactions of all which have come under our notice show a steady increase in the membership and extension of our Order, and the genera harmony which prevails is most gratifying and satisfactory.

Without further comment we commence our analyzation as usual with

ALABAMA.

The Grand Chapter of Alabama held its forty-fifth Annual Convocation in the city of Montgomery, commencing on the fifth day of December, 1871,—the *M. E.* HENRY CLAY ARMSTRONG, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* DANIEL SAYRE being Grand Secretary. Fifty-one subordinate Chapters were represented.

The Grand High Priest in his Address bemoans the distracted state of society, and the "wide spread demoralization," complaints of which, he says, are met on every hand. He says:—

If it be indeed true that we have fallen upon evil times; that men generally are less mindful of their obligations than formerly; that confidence is being destroyed, and the bonds of society relaxed; be ours the mission to so cleave to the tenets of our order, and so illustrate them in our daily walk and conversation, as to severally furnish, in the sphere of our influence, an effectual antidote to this degeneracy. Thus may we exemplify the teachings of masonry, and thus contribute, in our day and generation, to the strength and beauty and usefulness of the institution.

He announces the death of Past Grand High Priest, WILLIAM P. CHILTON, and speaks in glowing terms of praise of his life and character. He reports Royal Arch Masonry in that jurisdiction in a healthy condition, although no marked increase has occurred in their numbers; but this failure to add to their membership he does not regard as significant of a tendency to weakness, or as manifesting indifference or lethargy. He thinks we cannot be too frequently impressed with the truth that our strength does not consist in numbers alone, and in this we most heartily agree with him.

He complains that, in his visits to subordinate Chapters, although he has found the companions solicitous for instruction, yet proficiency was not always commensurate with zeal, and he strongly urges that some plan be matured by which the work and lectures may be generally disseminated and a greater degree of uniformity secured. We note the following decisions :—

In a case presented, I held that a companion who claimed to have been a member of a Chapter in this jurisdiction which had forfeited its charter, and who further claimed that a dimit had been voted him before such forfeiture, but, for some cause, never issued, might, upon proof made of these facts, affiliate with another Chapter, although his name does not appear upon the returns of the former Chapter on file with the Grand Secretary; and that the certificates of the last H. P., Sec. and R. A. C. of the discontinued Chapter might be evidence sufficient.

We think the certificates of the High Priest and Secretary would be amply sufficient without that of the Royal Arch Captain.

In response to questions propounded to me by a companion, *held*, that although a ballot on petition for the Chapter degrees has been had without objections, and the Chapter closed, a further ballot may be required at any time by a member.—(*Chapter Code*, p. 40, Sec. 10.)

In this jurisdiction, an objection interposed by a member at any time previous to conferring the degree of Mark Master upon the applicant, operates as a negative ballot and effectually bars the door against him until such objection is removed.

On the second application for the Chapter degrees by a rejected applicant, it is not required that every companion present at the first balloting should be present at the second; nor is it incumbent on the H. P. to give special notice of such second application. The petition being presented at a regular convocation and read, is notice that a second ballot will be taken, and the absence of a member when the time for the second balloting arrives, who was present at the first, is not sufficient cause for postponement. Yet, if a member notifies the H. P. that he desires to be present at such balloting, but that he can not be present at the convocation at which it would occur in order, it would be the duty of the H. P. to respect such notice, and by postponing, afford the companion an opportunity to exercise his right to "black ball" the applicant, if he desires so to do.

Three dispensations were granted for the formation of new Chapters.

Comp. P. J. PILLANS again presents the Report on Correspondence, reviewing in a courteous and interesting manner the transactions of twenty-seven Grand Chapters. California does not find a place in his report, much to our regret, but it is not our fault; the proceedings were duly mailed to the address of the Grand Secretary, but it is a long road from California to Alabama, and packages sometimes fall by the way. In his review of the transactions of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, he copies from the report of Comp. MASON, a history of the origin of Royal Arch Chapters and the date of such origin.

We were strongly tempted to publish this portion of Comp. MASON's report last year, but were frightened by its length; upon reading it again, however, we came to the conclusion that a document so valuable and interesting ought not to be withheld from the companions of this jurisdiction, and if they derive as much pleasure from its perusal as did the writer, they will not grudge the space given to its publication:—

ENGLAND.

Grand Secretary LARNER sent our proceedings for 1869 to Grand Secretary HERVEY of the Grand Chapter of England, officially, with fraternal greetings, when they were published, but has never received the courtesy of a reply. The chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence addressed a note, officially, to him several months later, but has received no reply. Knowing that no Grand Chapter in the United States had ever succeeded in obtaining official correspondence with our Mother Grand Chapter, your committee, though chagrined, were not disappointed.

Having letters of reference from several distinguished American masons to prominent masons in London, Manchester, Birmingham, Liverpool, York, and other English cities, the chairman of your committee sent them across the Atlantic and received replies from most of these distinguished masons, but failed to obtain any official correspondence from the Grand Chapter of England. It is the custom in foreign jurisdictions for committees on Foreign Correspondence to transact such official business, but in this instance it was denied. The attempt to place the capital of the United States in correspondence with the capital of Great Britain proved a failure. We publish these facts for the information of other Grand Chapters in America. The mother of Freemasonry on the globe refuses to recognize her children abroad. We leave it to others to characterize this act in proper language, and determine whether this is truly masonic.

We know that Royal Arch Masonry in England, unlike that in the Blue Lodges, is kept select, and is monopolized by the aristocracy and nobility. We know that the officers of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of England are noblemen of high birth, and accomplished as gentlemen. But in education, intelligence, honor, and manliness, they have their peers in America, although our Grand Chapters are not controlled by nobility, for we have no such thing in Republican America. We have, however, gentlemen of education and refinement who control Royal Arch Masonry in America, and with whom no Englishman need feel ashamed to associate. All those qualities of head and heart that truly make masons, our aristocratic companions of England will find in the Royal Craft of America. As long as England gave birth to modern freemasonry, and now counts two millions of disciples all over the earth, she is the last that should shut herself up, away from the gaze and admiration of her children, and like the Tycoon of Japan, die of *ennui*, or resolve her Grand Officers into a mutual admiration society.

In America we fully realize and endorse the following lines from the great masonic poet, ROBERT BURNS, whose memory masons in America love and esteem so highly :

"A king can make a belted knight,
A marquis, duke, and a' that,
But an honest man's aboon his might,
Guid faith, he maunna fa' that!
For a' that, and a' that,
Their dignities, and a' that,
The pith o' sense, and pride o' worth,
Are higher ranks than a' that.

"Then let us pray that come it may—
As come it will for a' that—
That sense and worth, o'er a' the earth,
May hear the gree, and a' that—
For a' that, and a' that,
It's comin' yet, for a' that,
That man to man, the world o'er,
Shall brothers be for a' that."

The Supreme Grand Chapter of England and Wales holds its convocations in London.

The Right Honorable, the Earl of Zetland, is the Most Excellent Grand Zerubbabel; the Right Honorable, the Earl de Grey and Ripon, is Grand Haggai; the Most Excellent Companion, Rev. John Huyshe, Grand Scribe Ezra.

England is divided into twenty-three Provinces, with eleven Provinces abroad. Of the three hundred and seventy chapters in active operation, five are in other parts of Europe, three in China, twenty-three in the East Indies, twelve in the West Indies, sixteen in Australia, two in New Zealand, seven in America, and five in Africa.

The sun never sets on the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of England. It is extended over the whole surface of the globe, and governs Royal Arch Masonry wherever the English language is spoken.

The request of your committee for more light respecting the work in Royal Arch Chapters in England, and information concerning the origin and history of Royal Arch Masonry in Great Britain, elicited little knowledge and meager replies from most of the distinguished masons addressed.

There was, fortunately, a single exception to this in the reply that came to hand from the eminent author and historian, Companion WILLIAM J. HUGHAN, Prov. Grand Secretary for Cornwall, &c. It is with more than ordinary pleasure that we lay his letter before the Royal Arch Masons of this city, and commend it to the careful perusal of the craft in all the different States, where we trust it will be copied.

It gives more real information respecting the working of the chapter degrees, and the history of Royal Arch Masonry abroad, than we have seen elsewhere. We make no apology for its length, on account of its great importance to the craft in America.

"TRURO, CORNWALL, GREAT BRITAIN,
April 28, 1870. }

"DEAR BRO. DR. MASON: I am duly in receipt of your letter of the 8th instant, and as I believe in the international or cosmopolitan character of the craft, will proceed at once to answer your numerous inquiries respecting Capitular Freemasonry, in England, Scotland, and Ireland.

"I must first, however, premise that my time is too fully occupied to permit of my doing justice to so extensive a subject, and therefore wherein this reply may be deemed insufficient, a further communication from you shall, if possible, receive a more lengthy consideration.

"As chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the District of Columbia, United States, you will have frequently regretted the want of reliable information relative to the progress of Royal Arch Masonry in Europe. Were but

the example of the United States Grand Chapters to be followed, this unsatisfactory state of affairs would not long continue, but unfortunately, in our country the Quarterly and Annual Communications Reports contain little beyond a register of the attendance and abstracts of accounts. Ireland is in the same category with us in England, but Scotland possesses valuable annual 'Reporters' issued by the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapters respectively, and are much valued by literary Freemasons.

"Calendars, however, are published annually, in which may be found a quantity of statistical intelligence by the Grand Lodge of England and Ireland, Grand Orient of France, and by private enterprise. These are likely enough known to you. At least there is no reason why they should not be, as you will only have to indicate your wishes to the Masonic publishers in Europe to secure copies of the documents and works published by the various Grand Bodies, or information as to where and how they may be obtained.

"Brothers RICHARD SPENCER, Great Green street, and GEORGE KENNING, Little Britain, London, could procure you almost any kind of work relating to our ancient institution published in this hemisphere. The former has an excellent masonic library, and is the publisher of all the late Dr. OLIVER's voluminous masonic works. Brother KENNING is the proprietor of the *Freemason*, which, I believe, has the largest circulation of any masonic magazine in the world. It occurs to me that these brothers would be excellent mediums for you whereby to obtain masonic publications, which at present you regret being unable to procure.

"I have devoted considerable time to the study of Royal Arch Masonry, and its real and *supposed* connections. Especially my researches have culminated in narrowing the question as to the *date of origin*, and as to when Grand Chapters were first formed in England. A short sketch of this subject will be interesting to you, and prove to be in some respects earlier positive information about the degree than you have previously obtained.

"Doubts have been thrown on the *antiquity* of Royal Arch Masonry, and certainly with truth. All purely masonic degrees, apart from the *three first*, have been introduced subsequent to the publication of the first printed Book of Constitutions by the Grand Lodge of England, A. D. 1723, and consequently are all of *modern* origin. Another opportunity may enable me to give you my views on craft masonry, *both ancient and modern*. With reference to Royal Arch Masonry, I believe it was introduced into England by the brethren against whom complaints were made at the Quarterly Convocation in June, 1739.

"The degree, however, though a foreign one—so far as Great Britain, Ireland, and the United States are concerned—is virtually of English origin, as its character was materially changed under the influence and exertions of both the 'moderns' and 'ancients' of England. How far the promoters of the '*secession*' from the first Grand Body of England were justified in altering the character of the *degree*, about A. D. 1740, we shall not here enter upon. That the 'ancients' were the inventors in this country, no one doubts; and if their *success* justified the *means*, the origin of the English Royal Arch was certainly a commendable work.

"In the present day, we have only to accept the 'work' handed down to us, and maintain the 'landmarks.' I purpose, in this short sketch, informing you (a) of the earliest references we have to the Royal Arch degree in this country, (b) the constitutions of the three Grand Chapters, (c) and a little statistical information relating to the craft in Great Britain and Ireland.

(a) Until A. D. 1867, no one during this century has produced earlier *printed* information referring to British Royal Arch Masonry than A. D. 1756, viz: 'Ahiman Rezon,' first edition. In this work Dr. D'ASSIGNY is alluded to, A. D. 1744, as an authority of that year. The work of A. D. 1744 has not been actually known to the masonic public, however, for *many years*, until I became the fortunate purchaser of a copy in 1867, from a London second-hand bookseller. The work is entitled 'A Serious and Impartial Inquiry,' Dublin, A. D. 1744, and is written by FIFIELD D'ASSIGNY, M. D. As the Royal Arch is therein mentioned, and its source traced to England, an important fact as to its approximate date is thereby determined:

* * * * *

"Subsequently in the FREEMASON'S MAGAZINE for Dec. 21, (No. 442,) this rare copy was also acknowledged to be, in all probability, unique, and references were made to well known masonic authors, such as Dr. GEORGE KLOSS, Rev. Dr. GEORGE OLIVER, and others, who had quoted from Dr. D'ASSIGNY's work, but always second-hand, viz.: from 'Ahiman Rezon,' of A. D. 1756, 1764, 1778, or late editions, by LAURENCE DERMOTT, Grand Secretary of the 'Ancients.' In no case have we been able to find any writer on freemasonry alluding to Dr. D'ASSIGNY's 'Inquiry' from personal observation of its contents, except in the case of Brother DERMOTT; and, but for his quotation, we should, up to the end of last year, have been quite in ignorance of the existence of any printed book mentioning the English Royal Arch degree *before* A. D. 1756.

"In our 'Analysis of Ancient and Modern Freemasonry,' page 445 *Freemasons' Magazine*, vol. 18, we mentioned that Brother FINDEL, in his comprehensive 'History of Freemasonry,' declares that he sought in vain for the book in the British Museum; and in *Die Bauhütte* for 8th August, 1868, there is an interesting article by our learned brother on the importance of the work itself, and the presumed value of its statements respecting the Royal Arch and Masonry generally. We are not aware whether the book is or is not in the British Museum, but would feel obliged for accurate information on the subject. It will be seen, by turning to Dr. KLOSS' invaluable 'Bibliographie der Freimaurer,' A. D. 1844, article No. 1859, even that indefatigable brother was unable to do more than insert Brother DERMOTT's notice of Dr. D'ASSIGNY and his notice of the Royal Arch (Vide, page 128, 'Fifield D'Assigny, schrieb 1744, ein Buch, welches Dermott im Ahiman Rezon, No. 154, angiebt, als enthalte es Bezugliches auf den Royal Arch Grad.') This quotation is given by Dr. GEORGE OLIVER, (page 107 'Origin of the English Royal Arch') and it is likewise adopted by various Masonic authors with or without acknowledgment.

"The following is an exact copy of the title page: 'A serious and Impartial Enquiry in the cause of the present Decay of Freemasonry in the kingdom of Ireland. Humbly addressed to all the brethren accepted of before and since the Constitutions. To which are added such instructive remarks as may be found useful to revive the honor of that ancient Craft. As likewise, by way of appendix will be inserted the old and new regulations of the London Constitutions, by the consent and approbation of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and dedicated to the Right Worshipful and Right Honorable the Lord Viscount Allen, Grand Master of this kingdom. The whole adorned with a curious copper-plate, suitable to the Order and design. By Fifield D'Assigny, M. D., author of the Impartial Answer to the enemies of Freemasons. Dublin. Printed by Edward Bate, in George's-lane, near Dame-street, M. D. C. C. XL. IV., 8vo., 80 pages.' There are also a few 'select songs of Masons' (eight in number) appended, and likewise a list of the regular Lodges in the city of Dublin, together with the names of the respective Masters and Wardens, their times and places of meeting (16 in all, No. 1 declared 'at this time to be vacant'), although not acknowledged in the 'contents.' The 'copper-plate,' unfortunately, has been removed by some regardless hands, and the 59th to the 64th pages inclusive, have been also extracted, containing the 18th to the 26th clauses of the 'Regulations.' So far as these regulations are concerned, the loss is of no importance, as we have them in the 'New Book of Constitutions by Edward Spratt, Dublin, 1751,' Anderson's Constitutions, A. D. 1738, and other editions; but we must confess to feeling much regret at the loss of the 'curious copper-plate.' It may, however, have been nothing more than a copy of the 'engraving' adorning the Constitution of A. D. 1723 or 1738, like in many other works of that period.

"At present, the nature of the 'curious copper-plate' seems far removed from discovery. The author dedicates the 'Enquiry' to the noble and puissant 'Prince Truth,' because he has endeavored to preserve those lasting and unalterable principles which the subjects of its kingdom so remarkably possess.' About four hundred subscribers' names are inserted immediately after the dedication, commencing with the Right Hon. John Lord Viscount ALLEN, G. M., the Hon. ELIZ ALLDORTH, BOYLE ALLDORTH of Copsefield, and LAURENCE McDERMOTT (Lawrence Dermott). This celebrated 'Lady Freemason' is supposed to have been initiated about A. D. 1739 (by the author of the 'Memoir,' issued by the noted Masonic publisher, Brother RICHARD SPENCER.) Some writers, however, think the date was earlier, while others fancy it was later.

"The fact of her name occurring as a subscriber to Dr. D'ASSIGNY's 'Enquiry' A. D. 1744, somewhat narrows the inquiry, and is of itself confirmatory of the account of her being a 'Free and Accepted Mason.' It seems quite inexplicable, though, why the extraordinary initiation of this lady is neither mentioned by Dr. D'ASSIGNY, nor by Brother EDWARD SPRATT, the Grand Secretary, in either of the works or constitutions published under their superintendence. The latter states that the 'Right Worshipful and Right Honorable the Lord Viscount DUNERAILE was proclaimed Grand Master of Masons and installed on Tuesday, 24th June, 1740. We take it that his Lordship succeeded the Right Honorable ARTHUR ST. LEGER, created first Viscount DUNERAILE June 23d, 1703, (who died A. D. 1727) and consequently was a brother to the Honorable 'ELIZABETH ST. LEGER, who married RICHARD ALLDORTH, Esq., of Newmarket, County Cork, who was son to Sir RICHARD ALLDORTH, Provost Mareschal of Munster.' Those anxious to pursue the inquiry cannot do better than procure the 'Memoir' from Brother R. SPENCER. A sketch of the 'Lady Freemason' has also appeared in the 'Devon and Cornwall Masonic Calendar, 1868,' the *Freemason's Magazine*, and other Masonic publications. Dr. D'ASSIGNY having had so numerous and influential a body of subscribers, several of whom took 'six copies,' we are certainly surprised to find that the work has been lost sight of for upwards of a century. We think, however, that the doctor must have told some unpalatable truths, as his name never appears in the list of officers from A. D. 1730 to A. D. 1750,

neither is there any notice whatever taken of him or his publications by any compiler of the Irish Constitutions. Probably the work itself was 'bought in,' or condemned by the authorities, as we know how averse they were then, and for some time afterwards, to publish anything in Masonry but the regulations.

"But to return to the main subject of this article. The preface commences thus: 'No government can properly subsist without certain wholesome laws and regulations, and as our commonwealth not only pleads the pride of antiquity, but, with equal justice, boasts of the beauty, order, regularity, and happy disposition of its fundamental constitutions, and as the happiness of the Craft also depends on a perfect intimacy with those rules handed down to us by our wise legislators, whose labors and skill in the everlasting art of architecture will demand the praise and admiration of the learned brethren in future ages, I have endeavored, in the following sheets, to represent some mistakes, irregularities, and unseemly transactions which have been occasioned by the want of an acquaintance with them, nor will the brethren, I hope, take it amiss (as I have chosen Truth for my patron) that I should strictly adhere to its principles, and point out the base and unpure from the generous and brave.' After alluding, in a most laudable manner, to the motives that should incite members of the fraternity to practice morality and good fellowship, so that they might 'meet with a general esteem from all mankind,' the following 'hearty good wishes' are expressed in conclusion: 'That plenty, peace, and unanimity may crown the brethren's days, so that this life ended, they may receive the recompense of their toils, and dwell in the presence of that Immortal Stone belonging to our building—even the Alpha and Omega of our redemption.'

"The author observes that 'it is with the utmost anxiety of mind that he has any occasion to employ his pen in representing the decay of Freemasonry; the increase of its welfare and advancement would have been a more pleasing task to him, but as the design of the present labor is to promote the latter,' he proceeds to make the following inquiries:

"First. 'When or what time the Craft of Masonry was instituted.'

"Secondly. 'The cause or motive of its institution.'

"Thirdly. 'The qualities or principles of the Craft.'

"Fourthly. 'The benefits arising from a strict observance of the principles thereof.'

"It will be seen that these divisions of the subject involve a consideration of the whole scope of the Institution.

"1. In order to solve the first question, he 'traces antiquity even unto its infant state, and takes a view of our parent Adam in his sylvan lodge, where the Almighty Architect imprinted on the very tablets of his heart the amazing symmetry and silent harmony of geometric proportion.' Then from 'Cain, who erected a fair city, and Enoch, who by gift of prophecy foretold the deluge, and that great day yet to come of final conflagration,' the author conducts his readers to 'Shinar's plain, where the masons laid the foundation of Babel's stupendous tower!'

"Like most Masonic writers of that age, Dr. D'ASSIGNY is anxious to give an epitome of ancient history so as to connect Freemasonry with every grand and stupendous structure from the beginning of time to the building of King Solomon's temple, 'which was carried on by the wisdom and dexterity of the learned Hiram, Grand Master of the Lodge of Tyre, who, together with the inspired Hiram Abif, Master of the Work, without the noise of tools, produced the most perfect pattern of architecture, the wonder and amazement of the traveling world.' We, however, of the present day, would give more for a few sentences from an old minute book than a million of learned fancies and absurd stories about the origin of the Craft.

"The author was, after all, but following in the wake of the Rev. Dr. JAMES ANDERSON and other writers of that epoch. At page 16 the old York legend is inserted as an 'authentic account,' *e. g.*: 'It is said there is held an assembly of Master Masons in the city of York, under the title of Royal Arch Masons, who, as their qualifications and excellencies are superior to others, they receive a larger pay than working masons: but of this more hereafter.' (Page 16.) We need not stay to discuss such a statement, as it is wholly fabulous. Brother FINDEL was sent to this country by the 'German Union of Freemasons,' purposely to look into the matter; and his careful investigations abundantly confirmed the fact that, until after A. D. 1760, Royal Arch Masonry was unknown in the city of York. With this statement we quite concur, as we proceeded to that famous Masonic city in the summer of 1867; and, although the records and charters were freely placed at our disposal, and a minute examination was instituted, nothing relative to the Royal Arch could be found until after the middle of the eighteenth century. Brother WILLIAM COWLING, P. M., and treasurer of the Union Lodge, York, (custodian of the records of that Lodge and of those belonging to the extinct Grand Lodge) is also of the same opinion. Curiously enough, Dr. D'ASSIGNY takes quite the reverse view as to the chivalric degrees and Masonry; for so far from admitting the indebtedness of the latter to the former for their ceremonies, he expressly declares that it 'could easily be proved that the Knights of Malta and many other religious orders and societies did borrow their solemn religious usages from our ancient fraternity.'—(Page 22.)

"2. The motives of the Institution of Masonry are declared to be very numerous. 'The welfare and the good of mankind was the chief cause or motive of so grand an institution, which not only tends to protect them from external injuries, but to polish the rusty dispositions of iniquitous minds, and to detain them within the limited and pleasant bounds of true religion, morality, and virtue.'

"3. The benefits arising from a strict observance of the principles of the Craft are so apparent that the author 'believes every Christian would be found to profess and practice the same, because those principles tend to promote the happiness of life, as they are founded on the basis of wisdom and virtue.'

"The following judicious 'Remarks' on this subject are offered by Dr. D'ASSIGNY, and we have thought it advisable to give them almost *verbatim*, because in many respects they are applicable to, we fear, many Masons of the present day who have wholly mistaken the intention of the society, and appear to believe that the chief end of Masonry is to 'eat, drink, and be merry.' It is to be regretted that so large a proportion of Lodges are held in 'public houses or hotels;' although we would fain hope that much improvement has been made of late years in that respect. It seems to us quite out of place for Masons to meet in 'taverns' and 'houses of public resort.' In support of this opinion we cannot do better than refer our readers to a series of remarkable letters in The Freemason's Magazine by my friend, Brother Dr. HENRY HOPKINS, and especially the one contained in the number for August 29, 1868. These letters are well written, and the result of many years' close observation of Masonry by one skilled in the Craft.

"But, to return to Dr. D'Assigny: 'In the first place, as our privileges and instructions when rightly made use of, are not only productive of our welfare on this side of the grave, but even of our eternal happiness hereafter, they ought only to be communicated to those alone who might improve and enhance their value; whereas, on the contrary, in several Lodges, too many have been fond of a trifling treat, and have sold their birthrights at a mean price, even for a mess of pottage; and, instead of taking a due and especial care to inquire into the reputation or character of the candidate, they have imprudently hurried him into the Craft, contrary to the known constitutions. * * * From the imprudence of introducing such members various divisions and disputes have arose in Lodges, where the brethren (instead of preserving the harmonious and friendly concord that ought to subsist amongst them) have unluckily fell into factious parties; so that unanimity, which ever will be the lasting cement of the brotherhood, hath been dissolved. As an house divided against itself can not stand, so likewise it is absolutely essential that every community should preserve peace and harmony as the surest foundation of its welfare; and I cannot help expressing my concern to hear of so many idle and trifling disputes as lately have happened amongst some of the fraternity, occasioned, as I must imagine, by the unfortunate and inconsiderate election of their members, the example of whom ought highly to engage us in a strict examination of the temper, disposition, and conduct of each candidate; for one contentious man may subvert and spoil the peace and quiet of our harmless hours, and, as the old proverb alleges—

Unico prava pecus inficet omnia pecus.

'One scabby sheep may infect an whole flock.'

"The concurrent observation will, we trust, be well considered by the advocates of the Christian character of universal Freemasonry, and who would thereby virtually exclude Jews and other religionists as full participators in the benefits of our cosmopolitan institution:—

"But how ridiculous do partisans concerning religion appear among us! Whereas the Craft, though founded upon that solid basis, will admit of no such controversies, and, provided we are not all of the same opinion in matters of faith, yet ought we ever to be of one mind in matters of Masonry; that is to labor justly, not to eat any man's bread for nought, but to the utmost of our capacity to love and serve each other, as brethren of the same household ought to do; nor can I help judging it as great an absurdity in one man to quarrel with another because he will not believe as he does, as it would be in him to be angry because he was not exactly of the same size and countenance, &c.; but the true brotherhood are resolved never to suffer any strife to enter into the door of the Lodge upon that or any other point whatever.'— (Page 29.)

"We come now to the quotation given by LAURENCE DERMOTT, in the "Ahiman Rezon." The part included in a parenthesis is all that is known to have appeared in any work, and it will be seen that the character of the quotation is considerably altered by an examination of the context. No doubt Brother DERMOTT (who was not over scrupulous what he did to advance the position of the 'seceders,' or 'ancients,' as they were called), gave as much of Dr. D'ASSIGNY's remarks as suited his purpose; but, as we are now in possession of the book itself, it appears to us evident that the author was only acquainted with the three degrees of Craft Masonry, and no more. It also appears that he was not aware of the nature of the Royal Arch, and, although

he wished its promoters to be treated with deference, because 'they were an organized body of men who had passed the chair,' we must not forget he expressly warned the brethren against 'ridiculous innovations,' 'foreign schemes,' and any more than 'three material steps' in Masonry. I can see nothing but a fair answer to objectors, who considered they should know what the Royal Arch was, without making 'proper application,' in Dr. D'ASSIGNY, saying that they should seek to be admitted if they wished to know what the degree was like, and then he accepted with due formality. No one, however, would take that opinion as equivalent to supporting the degree from one so anxious to act constitutionally, as at that time English Royal Arch Masonry was not recognized by any regular Grand Lodge in the world, and not by our own Grand Lodge until as late as A. D. 1813.

"It had, however, been virtually recognized by the Grand Lodge of England from 1780; and from about that date to the 'Union' was patronized by many of the leading members of the Fraternity, who formed a Grand Chapter eventually and practiced the degree. For fuller information on this point we would refer our readers to Dr. OLIVER'S Royal Arch, and to our 'Analysis'—(Part 2.)

"Dr. D'ASSIGNY proceeds to observe that 'as the landmarks of the Constitution of Freemasonry are universally the same throughout all kingdoms, and are so well fixed that they will not admit of removal, how comes it to pass that some have been led away with ridiculous innovations, an example of which I shall prove by a certain propagator of a false system some years ago in this city, who imposed upon several very worthy men under pretence of being Master of the Royal Arch, which he asserted he had brought with him from the city of York; and that the beauties of the Craft did principally consist in the knowledge of this valuable piece of Masonry. However, he carried on his scheme for several months, and many of the learned and wise were his followers; till at length his fallacious art was discovered by a brother of probity and wisdom, who had some small pace before attained that excellent part of Masonry in London, and plainly proved that his doctrine was false; whereupon the brethren justly despised him, and ordered him to be excluded from all benefits of the Craft, and although*—(some of the Fraternity have expressed an uneasiness at this matter being kept a secret from them, since they had already passed through the usual degrees of probation. I can not help being of opinion that they have no right to any such benefit until they make a proper application, and are received with due formality; and as it is an organized body of men who have passed the chair, and given undemable proofs of their skill in architecture, it cannot be treated with too much reverence, and more especially since the characters of the present members of that particular Lodge are untainted, and their behavior judicious and unexceptionable, so that there cannot be the least hinge to hang a doubt on, but they are most excellent Masons)—I cannot help informing the brethren that there is lately arrived in this city a certain itinerant Mason, whose judgment (as he declares) is so far illumined, and whose optics are so strong that they can bear the view of the most lucid rays of the sun at noon-day; and although we have contented ourselves with three material steps to approach our *Summum Bonum*, the immortal God; yet he presumes to acquaint us that he can add three more, which, when properly placed, advances us to the highest heavens. * * * * *

For my part I shall profess a very great esteem for any one who shall add to the beauty of our glorious art, or by any means improve or enhance the value thereof, and were I assured that this adept had skill sufficient to demonstrate the truth of his assertion, I should pay him the utmost veneration; but until then he must excuse me from being one of his devotees, and I hope that no innocent and worthy brother may at any time be misled by false insinuations or foreign schemes.

"On comparing 'Ahiman Rezon' of A. D. 1756 with this work, one can easily see how much Brother DERMOTT was indebted to Dr. D'ASSIGNY for most of what is valuable in that compilation, although the source whence he derived his information is not acknowledged.

"It is quite impossible at this time to discover the name of the impostor mentioned. Both of the authors just mentioned refrain from stating who he was, as their aim was rather to 'reform than offend.' We think, however, that Dr. D'ASSIGNY never countenanced anything in Masonry but the three degrees of the Craft, and that he was one of the few who raised their voices against the alterations then being made in the first and second degrees, but who more especially objected to the removal of the lost word from the third degree to the Royal Arch, and the substitution of six or more steps for the 'three material steps' which enabled Master Masons to 'approach the immortal God.' Having attempted to do justice to the memory of Dr. D'ASSIGNY, and thereby claimed him as an advocate of but 'three degrees and no more, in Ancient Free and Accepted Masonry,' I shall conclude my agreeable labors by presenting the finishing observations of that learned Mason. 'In ancient times Lodges were

* Vide Ahiman Rezon, A. D. 1756, 1764, &c.

only schools of architecture, and the presiding Masters were generally learned geometers, who took care to instruct their brethren and fellows in the study of the liberal arts and sciences, and for their better government they formed such laws and general regulations as were thought necessary to maintain the harmony and well-being of each particular organized body, and upon the neglect of attendance of either Master or fellow (when duly summoned) a severe censure was incurred, until he could prove unto to the whole Lodge that pure necessity was the motive of his absence.

"It is heartily to be wished that the knowledge of geometry and architecture, together with the rest of the sciences, were the only entertainment of modern Lodges. If so, what is often unhappily substituted in their places would not prevail as it does, neither ought a man to attain to any dignity in Masonry without first having a competent knowledge in the liberal arts, and I am sorry to say that so few of that stamp are to be met with in the Lodges of this great* metropolis, which defect is certainly owing (as heretofore observed) to the imprudent choice and introduction of their members, for every man formerly (though perhaps of a good and moral reputation) was not admitted into the Craft, nor allowed to share the benefits of our noble institution, unless he was endued with skill in Masonry, as he might thereby be able to improve the art either by plan or workmanship, or had such an affluence of fortune as should enable him to employ, honor, and protect the Craftsmen. I would not be understood by this to mean that no citizen or reputable tradesmen should receive any of our benefits, but, on the contrary, am of opinion that they are valuable members of the commonwealth, and in consequence would prove real ornaments; but how ridiculous is it to see daily so many persons of low life introduced among us, and when they are admitted into the company of their betters by the assistance of Masonry, they too often act beyond their capacities, and (if the expression may be allowed) soon turn Mason-mad, and, under pretence of searching for knowledge, they fall into scenes of gluttony or drunkenness, and thereby neglect their necessary occupations and injure their families, which is not consistent with the known laws, constitutions, and principles of all true brethren."

"The by-laws and general regulations of the Lodges in this city are exceedingly well calculated for good management of the Craft, but what avails the best contrived and most salutary laws if they are not put into form and properly executed? To pass over indiscretions is in some measure granting a sanction or approbation of them, wherefore it highly concerns our worthy Masters to let no crime remain unbuked, but duly to admonish the offender, and if he repeats his transgression, to inflict such punishments as they and the brethren shall judge necessary."

"Having now described the cause of the present decay of Freemasonry, together with some remarks which I hope will be found useful to the brethren, I shall give them the following friendly admonition, and then conclude:

"As the Craft hath subsisted from time immemorial, and contains the most glorious precepts of morality and virtue, let not the malicious world have cause to blame us for any base or degenerate actions, but let us industriously pursue the unerring rule which the Almighty Architect hath given us; let us be united in one sacred bond of love and friendship, and, if there is contention amongst us, let it be in striving who can outdo each other in acts of religion, mercy, charity, and all other good offices."

"Let us all endeavor to deserve the following true character:—

"If all the social virtues of the mind,
If an extensive love to all mankind,
If hospitable welcome to a guest,
And speedy charity to the distressed,
If due regard to liberty and laws,
Zeal for our king, and for our country's cause,
If these are principles deserving fame,
Let Masons then enjoy the praise they claim."

"In consequence of the value of this discovery, I sent a lengthy communication to the S. G. Chapter of Scotland, and suggested their altering the excellent preface to their statutes, so far as it contains a statement that the earliest printed notice of the Royal Arch was dated 1764. According, in the edition of the Laws (viz: 1869) the Royal Arch is traced to A. D. 1744, and the Grand Chapter also, in the most handsome manner, acknowledged their indebtedness to me for the discovery.

"As soon as my engagements permit, the scarce work will be reprinted, when a copy shall be 'mailed' to you in due course for your acceptance.

"I have plenty of foreign works, from about 1740, which clearly indicate that the word of the third degree was then quite different to now, and that the origin of the Royal Arch in this country is to be found in fact of the alteration of the third degree

* We fancy that Dublin is not the only 'great metropolis' of the present day that labors under the manifest disadvantages Dr. D'ASSIGNY points out, as resulting from an improper choice of members, for unsuitable candidates being accepted as members in our Lodges is the crying evil and curse of modern Lodges almost everywhere.

by the 'seceders.' The 'Origin of the Royal Arch,' by the late Rev. GEORGE OLIVER, D. D., is the best work on the subject, although at the time the above work was not found, yet nearly every matter of importance affecting the degree is noticed by our much respected and revered *Masonic author*. (It is published by R. SPENCER, London, at five shillings and six-pence.) The degree is thus traced *in print* for a period of at least *one hundred and twenty-six years*. How absurd, then, for some to state it has only existed since 1776!!

"(b.) The Constitution of the three Grand Chapters, and—

"(c.) Statistics, &c.

"The United Grand Chapter of England was formed A. D. 1817, by virtue of the 'Articles of Union' A. D. 1813, by the incorporation of two Grand Chapters, viz: those of the 'Ancients' and the 'Moderns.' The 'Ancients' had a 'General Grand Chapter' before the 'Union,' recognized by (and in fact a part of) their Grand Lodge, and the Chapters were held under the sanction of the Lodges, no fees for separate warrants being charged. The prerequisites were, having taken the three degrees and 'passed the chair.' The Royal Arch by them was called the '*fourth degree*.' The 'Moderns,' however, were, as Royal Arch Masons, not acknowledged by *their Grand Lodge*; but, on the contrary, that body passed a distinct resolution only a few years before the 'Union,' declaring its non-participation in any way with the degree. Hence such brethren, under the rule of the regular Grand Lodge, established a *Grand Chapter, and granted warrants* to work the degree, with certain dues for constitution and such like. The first edition of their laws was published A. D. 1778, and the *second* A. D. 1782. There has been some discussion as to the date when this Grand Chapter was formed, and it has generally been placed at A. D. 1776. My researches, however, make it at least ten years earlier. I have now before me a warrant issued by this Grand Chapter on the 12th day of May, A. L. 1773, A. D. 1769, to the 'Euphrates Lodge or the Chapter of the Garden of Eden being No. 2.' On this fact, and also that in the laws of 1778 the year 1766 is mentioned as a date from which all Chapters must be legally constituted by this Grand Chapter (page 15) to secure recognition, I think we may conclude that this Supreme Body was formed A. D. 1766, at the latest. *At least, such are the results of my examination.* In *Masonic Miscellanies*, by T. JONES, 1797, will be found a list of their Chapters, numbering some *ninety*, the above Chapter, No. 2, being then registered No. 6. *No dates are appended*; neither are any of them noticed in the calendar published by the Grand Lodge of England for the same year, or in fact for any year until after A. D. 1813. The prerequisites for exaltation were similar to those in operation among the 'seceders.'

"Since the two Grand Chapters have been united, the degree has been recognized by the Grand Lodge of England, but only as a part of the third degree, and not as a *fourth*. *This body recognizes none besides*, although it tolerates any degrees being worked so long as they are kept distinct from Craft Masonry.

"In Scotland the Grand Chapter was formed in 1817, but for about seventy years before the degree was worked in that country, though irregularly. The Grand Lodge of Scotland only recognizes the three Craft degrees AND THE MARK. The Royal Arch is represented by an independent Grand Chapter, and is worked differently to England, as the Mark, Past Master, Excellent Master, and the 'Veils,' are required preparatory to the degree of Royal Arch being taken. This body has granted warrants to work the *Mark* degree in England, notwithstanding the legal formation of a Grand Lodge to work that degree A. D. 1856, and which now has one hundred Mark Lodges *under its rule*, and is in an excellent working order. In Ireland the Grand Lodge is confined to the Craft, only it and all the old Grand Bodies are in unison, and a regular series or grade of degrees, from the first to the *thirty third*, is reciprocally worked. The Grand Chapter only gives the Mark, 'Veils,' and Royal Arch degree. Before a brother can take the Rose Croix, he is required to be thirty-three years of age, seven years a Master Mason, and to have been admitted a Mark Master, Royal Arch, Knight of the Sword, Knight of the East, Knight of the East and West, Knight Templar, and Knight of Malta, and have been a Master of a Lodge for six months! The degrees of '*Royal and Select Masters*' are not known in either country, and are virtually given in the first degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, of which they are copies. The Grand Chapter of Ireland approaches the nearest to capitular Masonry in the United States, although, as in England and Ireland, '*High Priesthood*' is not recognized.

In England the Royal Arch is most carefully worked, is exclusive in its membership, and has attained a high degree of perfection, especially in London, where many of its preceptors are able exponents and ritualists of the sublime mysteries of the Order.

"Under the Grand Lodge of England there are over 1,200 active Lodges, 400 Royal Arch Chapters, and 100 Mark Lodges (under Grand Lodge of Mark Masters.) The Lodges at the 'Union of 1813' were taken alternately from the 'Ancients' and 'Moderns,' the latter coming first, so that the mere number is not an evidence of

date alone, as *e. g.*, No. 2 is much older than No. 1, and so No. 4 than 3, and No. 2 and 4 than the Grand Stewards' Lodge, which comes first. The 'Moderns' are easily recognized by turning to the calendar published by the Grand Lodge, as *those only* have the dates of their constitution given before 1813. As each Chapter takes the number of the Lodge to which it is attached, it would be wrong to suppose that, as the last Chapter mentioned in the calendar for 1870 is No. 1,222, that there were over one thousand chapters under England, as some of our American friends have done, whereas, in reality, there are not now half that number.

"The Grand Lodge of Ireland has some 400 lodges, and the Grand Chapter has about 80 Chapters on its roll. The latter are numbered according to the Lodges under which they work.

"In Scotland there are also about 400 lodges [*note*] (although the last granted bears the number 1,014 *under Ireland* in 1869, there are not 500 really in existence in that country, as the numbers are not altered every now and then as in England especially, and in Scotland, the vacancies being occasioned by lodges resigning warrants on forming new Grand Lodges abroad.) The Grand Chapter musters some 100 chapters and about 12 Mark lodges working under its authority out of that country.

"The Grand Lodge of England has done a great work. 'The immense masonic constellation that now shines in the far Pacific seas has arisen in light and beauty of late years. Remote and almost mystical corners of the globe have received the benefits of freemasonry under its auspices. From Japan to Gibraltar, from the Gold Coast to the Himalayan Mountains, through the ancient empire of Cathay and the bleak regions of Newfoundland, the blessings of our friendly craft have been spread through its fostering care,' and what is more, it is virtually the great parent of every Grand Lodge under the sun, and the *Grand* mother of about two millions of Masons now walking the earth, who, if they but followed its teachings, might soon change this world into a moral (as well as it is now, a terrestrial) paradise.

"My work is done! Accept my fraternal greeting.

"WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

"*Note.*—Royal Arch masonry, as in Great Britain, is only worked where the English language is spoken verbally. It is unknown in France, Germany, and in fact everywhere but in England, Scotland, Ireland, the United States, and British possessions.

"The ancient and accepted Scottish Rite, in the 13°, supplies the main features for the foreign brethren. "W. J. H.

"To the Ill. and M.: E.: Companion JOHN EDWIN MASON, M. D., &c. "From Mr. WILLIAM J. HUGHAN, P. M., No. 131, Truro, Prov. Grand Secretary for Cornwall, Honorary Member 'Mother Lodge, Kelwinning,' Scotland; No. 1,195, London; No. 415 Glasgow; No. 1222, Chapter Weston, No. 18, Chapter Ayr, Scotland, &c., author of 'Constitutions of Freemasons,' &c."

To say that the Committee on Foreign Correspondence are under great obligations to this Eminent Companion for this vast amount of useful information, feebly expresses their feelings. The sincere thanks of our companions here in the capital of the United States are tendered, with the assurances that more light has been shed on Royal Arch masonry by this learned companion than has been received from any other source across the Atlantic.

Appropriate to this subject, we add the following from one of the lectures of Companion WM. R. SINGLETON, the well known masonic antiquarian and archæologist of this city.

"The Royal Arch degree was introduced into England in A. D. 1740, by Chevalier RAMSEY, at the time of the great dissensions between the Grand Lodge of England and the Grand Lodge of York. RAMSEY sought by masonry to advance the interests of the Pretender, and he claimed that this degree originated in the 'Holy Land.' He was rejected by the Grand Lodge, and he then sought alliance with those called the 'Ancients,' or Seceders. LAWRENCE DERMOTT, being for many years their leader and most active spirit, sought by this degree to draw attention to the ancient Lodges, and claimed for masonry four degrees, when the Moderns, or the Grand Lodge, knew of but three. In 1756 he published the *Ahiman Rezon*, with similar statements in it. His degree, however, was not precisely like the RAMSEY, but was evidently derived from it. The Grand Lodge did not recognize the degree as late as 1758. The Grand Lodge of the Ancients was formed about A. D. 1753, and authorized the conferring of the four degrees, and DERMOTT says that the opinion of W.: Brother Dr. FITFIELD D'ASSIGNEY was, 'that no one had a right to the fourth degree, unless they had passed the chair, and given undeniable proofs of their skill, and therefore must have been *actual* past masters.

"THOMAS DUNCKERLEY, an illegitimate son of GEORGE II, was chosen master of a lodge in 1770, and soon became Grand Master, visiting the Ancient Lodges, became acquainted with the new degree, and resolved that 'they should not appropriate a single pearl of any value towards the elucidation of the craft.' He remodeled it and revised the lecture, presented the degree to the Grand Lodge. It was found that the practice of this degree required a change in the Master's degree—a removal and a

substitution; says Dr. OLIVER, 'a transfer of the Master's word.' It withstood the attacks made upon it by the influence of the Duke of Clarence and the brilliancy and genius of DUNCKERLEY, and since 1779 the Holy Royal Arch has been cultivated under the authority of the Grand Lodge of England, and declared to be a part of ancient masonry. In connection with this history, I may state that after this period, during the revival of masonry and its introduction into various countries no less than three thousand degrees were manufactured claiming to be masonic, or like thereto, all made within a period of three-quarters of a century.

"Some were useful, instructive, and worthy of cultivation. Among these were the twenty-five degrees of the Rite of Perfection, which first appeared in France A. D. 1758, introduced into this country, 1764. Eight degrees were afterwards added, making thirty-three, and styled the 'Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.' The thirteenth of each of these was and is the Royal Arch, known as Enoch's Arch, Knights of the Ninth Arch, and the Ancient Arch of King Solomon.

"From A. D. 1740 to 1779 there were four degrees called Royal Arch, or phases of it, neither of which are practiced in this country under the authority of the General Grand Chapter: 1. RAMSEY'S Royal Arch, A. D. 1740; 2. DERMOTT'S Holy Royal Arch, A. D. 1750; 3. R. A. of the Rite of Perfection, A. D. 1758; 4. DUNCKERLEY'S Holy Royal Arch, A. D. 1779; Add the 5th, WEBB'S or American, about A. D. 1796-7.

"The Webb or American degree, practiced in the United States, differs from all the others, and when first promulgated by WEBB, in 1797, was a new degree, composed of a little from the Rite of Perfection, from DERMOTT'S and DUNCKERLEY'S, with a cementation of new matter."

* * * * *

"It is a well established fact that WEBB remodeled the Royal Arch degree, and revised it from the English work; and the degree as now conferred in the United States was prepared by THOMAS SMITH WEBB. He added the Past Master's degree, and took the Mark Master's degree from the solitary condition in which he found it in the *Mark Lodge*, and annexed it to the chapter, thus making three degrees. He soon after prepared in his fertile brain still another degree, entirely unknown across the Atlantic at this date, which he called the Most Excellent Master, which is the shortest but most beautiful in the chapter degrees. This was at once adopted as one of the four degrees in capitular masonry, and thus the work as now conferred in the United States sprung into existence."

We notice that under the head of "mistakes overlooked, and unconsidered errors picked up by the Grand Secretary," he publishes all the errors discovered by him in the returns of the various subordinate Chapters, as: "Talladega No. 23,—Seal nearly upside down." "Courtland No. 25,—Initials used, seal crank-sided," &c. What a crank-sided seal is we are at a loss to imagine, but we presume it is "an unconsidered error," at least. Perhaps a table of this character published in our own proceedings might have a salutary effect upon the Secretaries of some of our subordinates, but we fear they would get crank-sided themselves if we should publish all their short comings.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were both reelected.

Address of Grand Secretary: DANIEL SAYRE, Montgomery.

CANADA.

The fifteenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Canada was held in the city of Toronto on the fourteenth day of August, 1872, the M. E. THOMPSON WILSON, Past Grand Z., presiding, the R. E. THOMAS BIRD HARRIS being Grand Scribe E. Thirty-five chartered Chapters and three under dispensation were represented at the opening.

The M. E. T. DOUGLAS HARRINGTON, Grand Z., being prevented by illness from attending the Convocation, his address was read by the R. E. SAMUEL B. HARMAN, Grand H.

The Grand Z. prefaces his address by expressing his regret at his inability to enjoy the reunion with his old friends and companions after a year of separation. He says: "Royal Arch affairs have afforded so little material to which to call your attention on account of the general harmony that has reigned, that my address can not be of lengthy dimensions." He reports the issue of six dispensations to form new Chapters, and hopes the new subordinates will prove worthy of the trust confided in them. He says the representative system is gaining ground and popularity,

and announces the appointment of representatives near the Grand Chapters of the District of Columbia and Illinois. The Grand Mark Lodge of England having sought an interchange of representatives, he directed the Grand Scribe E. to write and state that any representative must necessarily be a Principal or Past Principal, (High Priest or Past High Priest), of a Chapter, and could, of course, act only in matters pertaining to the Mark Degree. He regards the subject as attended with some difficulty, and recommends it to the careful consideration of the Grand Chapter. He calls attention to the report that the Grand Mark Lodge of England is trying to assume some control over the Mark Degree in Canada, by granting, or proposing to grant, warrants for conferring the same, and states that he had caused that Grand Body to be notified that the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master belong to the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Canada exclusively, and that any Mark Warrant issued from England could not be recognized and should be withdrawn and canceled, and that any other course could not fail to seriously imperil the friendly relations now existing between the two bodies.

We think the Grand Z. has taken the proper course in this matter, for the establishment of Mark Lodges, independent of and not amenable to the Grand Chapter, must inevitably result in serious difficulties and complications.

In calling the attention of the Grand Chapter to the restoration to health of the illustrious brother and companion, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, he says : " We have indeed great reason to return our heartfelt thanks to the ' Giver of all Good ' for this, one of his manifold mercies, in thus giving back from the very brink of the grave the hope of the British Dominions, and over which the sun never sets ;" and he recommends that the Grand Chapter unite with the Grand Lodge of Canada in sending to England a loyal address of congratulation and warm sympathy.

He states that discord exists in one of the subordinate Chapters, growing out of the " Quebec Difficulty," and hopes that the " outstanding grievance and Masonic scandal " may be removed by the action of the Grand Chapter. We shall rejoice when this Quebec ghost is laid.

The reports of the various " Grand Superintendents " exhibit a picture of harmony and prosperity which is truly gratifying, and we congratulate our companions of Canada upon the bright prospects before them.

The Grand Chapter loses an able and zealous officer in the *M. . E. .* T. DOUGLAS HARRINGTON, Grand Z., who, for eleven years, has guided its destinies, and proved himself to be a faithful worker in the vineyard : he has well earned the wages which he receives in the love and esteem of his companions.

The Report on Correspondence was presented by Comp. HENRY ROBERTSON, in which he ably reviews the transactions of twenty-eight Grand Chapters ; also those of the General Grand Chapter of the United States for 1871.

The proceedings of California, together with those of ten other States, failed to reach him—much to our regret. The *R. . E. .* S. B. HARMAN, of Toronto, was elected Grand Z., and the *V. . E. .* THOMAS BIRD HARRIS was reelected Grand Scribe E.

Address of the Grand Scribe E.,—Hamilton, Ontario.

CONNECTICUT.

The semi-annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut was held in the city of New Britain on the first day of November, 1871. Twenty-five subordinate Chapters were represented, one of which was opened by its regular officers and the degrees were conferred upon candidates and the lectures rehearsed in full.

The following resolution was adopted :—

Resolved, That the Chapters within this jurisdiction be, and they are hereby, required to conform with the resolution on the subject of ritual, adopted by the *M. . E. .* General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, and that the work be promulgated by the first four officers of this Grand Chapter accordingly.

The seventy-fourth Annual Convocation was held in the city of Hartford on the seventh day of May, 1872, the *M. E.* CHARLES W. STEARNS, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* JOSEPH K. WHEELER being Grand Secretary.

At this Convocation thirty chartered Chapters (being all upon the registry) were represented, and one under dispensation.

The Grand High Priest in his address thus refers to the last meeting of the General Grand Chapter :—

When I say to you that thirty Grand Chapters were there represented, I can offer you no higher or more conclusive evidence to substantiate the fact that that body—which has so long been subjected to ridicule and abuse from those who may have misjudged it in its intents and purposes—stands to-day upon the highest pinnacle of fame; to-day it is recognized as a power, and its influence is being felt throughout the civilized world.

In years past, this Grand Chapter has expressed some doubt as to the utility or usefulness of this great and central head of Royal Arch Masonry.

If there be any timid ones, with hearts filled with forebodings of evil, fearful that their rights and privileges are in danger of being destroyed, let me encourage them to look up with confidence; let me assure them—as I may with safety—that the Companions who from time to time compose the General Grand Chapter are men of intelligence, discretion, and ability, strenuous in their endeavors to dispense justice to all, and anxious to see the fair fame of our institution preserved in all its purity.

He reports the issue of one dispensation to form a new Chapter, and five for special purposes.

He appears to have been tolerably well satisfied with the *personnel* of the Grand Chapter, as he says: “While our Chapters are governed by men of intelligence, ability, discretion, and zeal—*such as are seen here to-day*—we shall maintain a position of honor, and our name shall go abroad, diffusing light.”

Representatives were appointed near the Grand Chapters of New York, Minnesota, and Kansas.

He recommends that the dues of the subordinate Chapters be temporarily increased until a sufficient fund has accumulated to defray the expense of publishing the earlier records of the Grand Chapter.

The chairman of the Committee on Correspondence was, by a resolution of the Grand Chapter, requested to furnish his report in time for publication before the Annual Convocation. This has always been the practice in this jurisdiction, and we are surprised that it is not universally adopted. It affords the members of the Grand Chapter an opportunity to examine and criticise the report before it is ordered for publication with the proceedings, saves the time employed in the reading,—if, indeed, they ever are read,—and, judging from the tenor of some reports which have come under our notice, we are led to the conclusion that, had they been subjected to the scrutiny of the Grand Chapter before publication, we should have been spared the pain and trouble of reviewing them; and it also greatly facilitates the speedy publication of the proceedings.

The Auditing Committee report a balance in the treasury of \$376 87.

A committee was appointed to devise some plan for a more efficient system of visitation and inspection, and this action was probably induced by the report of the Deputy Grand High Priest, in which he stated that he had made but one official visit during the year, and that the subordinates, *so far as his acquaintance extended*, were competent to perform any part of the work, “be it ever so difficult.”

The Committee on Grievances report nothing to do, and they appear to have aided each other in doing it, with a zeal and unanimity truly commendable.

Comp. LUKE A. LOCKWOOD presents the Report on Correspondence, which, in point of excellence, is fully up to the standard of its predecessors. He reviews the transactions of twenty-seven Grand Chapters, and of the General Grand Chapter at its last triennial session. California for 1871 receives fraternal notice.

In alluding to a certain transaction, ordered by the Grand High Priest of Illinois to be expunged from the records of a subordinate Chapter, he says; “Pray tell us

how the expunging is done. Is the record kept on a slate and wiped off? If upon paper, is the leaf torn out? It strikes us that this word 'expunge' can not be found in the Masonic vocabulary." We presume a wet sponge is passed over it until the writing becomes illegible, when it is considered ex-sponged.

He thus treats the good-natured insinuation of Comp. HACKER, of Indiana, that the "one cent for tribute," levied by the General Grand Chapter, might be needed to defray the expenses of the "riotous living" usually indulged in during its sessions:—

The General Grand Chapter is well known. The sources of her revenue are limited. The expense of "magnificent banquets" has never been paid out of the treasury, but has always been the free-will offering of her loving and hospitable children. It is not seemly to give our mother a stone when she asks bread. This, too, from our venerable and respected Companion Hacker. We are glad to see that forty dollars were appropriated for the General Grand Chapter; and, for fear our Indiana representatives might vote in General Grand Chapter to have it expended for a "magnificent banquet," its use is limited to defraying expenses of printing.

Too bad that Indiana's quota should thus have been limited, but, Comp. Lockwood, we will make a suggestion, and won't charge you a cent for it. We are an old sailor, and know the ropes; many a good coil of spun-yarn we have seen charged on the books of the ship chandler, which was represented by a gallon of "old rye" on board ship. If Indiana desires her contribution to be applied to defraying the expenses of printing, let it be so applied. We must have bills of fare for our "magnificent banquets," you know, and these bills must be printed, and the printer must be paid (if we can't avoid it). We don't dare to say more, for fear CORSON *et als.* will think our moral standard not sufficiently elevated to entitle us to membership in the M. A. S.

He approves of printing Reports on Correspondence before the meeting of the Grand Chapter, and under the head of "New Jersey" he says: "This is a good idea, and it would be well to make it general. If this were done the Grand Chapter would be able, in a measure, to control the occasional erratic notices of their correspondents."

In reviewing the transactions of the Grand Chapter of Ohio, he quotes the following resolution:—

"*Resolved*, That, in the opinion of this Grand Chapter, a Master Mason, who has become maimed in person, is not thereby prevented from receiving the degrees conferred in a Royal Arch Chapter."

He improves this opportunity to poke fun at Ohio, as follows:—

We are glad to know this, for if we ever visit Ohio again and a Royal Arch Mason without arms shall offer his foot in welcome, we can reciprocate the warm pressure, and safely infer that he has been duly exalted by a Chapter, which is its own and sole judge of the necessary physical qualification of its candidates. Again, how deeply we all must sympathize with *leg-less, weary sojourners*. Do they *wade* streams or pass bridges in Ohio? The idea of the lame, the halt and the blind re-building the House of the Lord! It might be consistent, for they ought to be willing to work without the hope of fee or reward. Please reconsider. The subject grows, but lost legs, hands, arms and feet will not.

Of the General Grand Chapter he says:—

The meeting was altogether pleasant, and in many respects profitable. The learned, and most unexpected lecture by M. E. Companion ALBERT PIKE, on *Divinity, Demonology and Geography*, was listened to with profound respect. From it we learned the utter unworthiness of credence of Dr. OLIVER. MACKEY, and other lights heretofore regarded as authority upon subjects of masonic research. The final result was, the General Grand Chapter decided unanimously, what there never was any dispute about, to wit, the correct G. O. W. Yet the lecture was aimed to destroy the received G. R. A. W. of York masonry, together with its most impressive, consistent and beautiful symbolism. The question, "What will he do with it?" remains yet unanswered. It was not "*expunged*"—that is the modern word—but was to be used; but for what purpose is left a mystery. We say boldly, that the precipitation of this discussion upon the General Grand Chapter without notice, involving, as it did and does, the very life of the Royal Art, was *unfair*; and the attempted ridicule was unworthy of the occasion, the subject and the memory of our worthy ancestors who transmitted it. For the information of the Royal Craft who were not present to the attempted *assassination* of the Royal Arch, of the York Rite, (we use the

word advisedly,) we would say, that upon investigation, we find that *M.: E.:* Companion PIKE's statement is not sustained, by any authority we can find, on the contrary, is opposed by all.

We are surprised at the temerity displayed in the foregoing paragraph. What! dispute the authority of ALBERT PIKE in such a matter? Preposterous.

The *M.: E.:* WILLIAM W. LEE, of West Meriden, was elected Grand High Priest, and Comp. JOSEPH K. WHEELER, of Hartford, was reelected Grand Secretary.

DELAWARE.

The fourth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Delaware was held in the city of Dover on the seventeenth day of January, 1872,—the *M.: E.:* A. V. LESLEY, Grand High Priest, presiding, and the *R.: E.:* W. F. GODWIN being Grand Secretary. All the Chapters in the jurisdiction were represented, yet no complaint of overcrowding was made.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is a well written paper, replete with wise counsel and sound moral sentiment. He congratulates the Grand Chapter upon the perfect harmony now existing; upon its unbroken number and efficient working. He says: "We have no loss to mourn, no division of sentiment to regret, and we meet, I trust, with purposes full of zeal for the advancement of the Order, the good and healthy growth of which should be our chief care and delight, as it is our duty." He thinks the gray-beards should surrender to the younger companions the honor of navigating the Royal Arch ship, and, having borne the heat and burden of the morning and the noon, enjoy their wages and a cabin passage for the balance of the trip; occasionally casting an eye to windward to see that no sudden squall overtakes her, or keeping a sharp lookout to leeward for breakers. This may be good policy, but we prefer to see an old shell-back at the wheel and let the youngsters serve their apprenticeship.

His ideas with reference to the General Grand Chapter we fully indorse. He says:—

It is my desire to see our jurisdiction occupy a high position in the family of Grand Chapters, which, by its representatives, triennially assembles, and whose supreme influence is always existent for the centering of sufficient power to bind the forces and interests of all the Royal Arch bodies of the continent together into one powerful and harmonious whole.

Independent, yet bound together; distinct and unfettered in action, yet in close communication and sympathy; not so much ruled over, as placed in accord, the various Grand Chapters find in the General Grand body their central meeting-point, and feel its influence as an incentive to a noble emulation. That influence felt by each, and appreciated, will tend to increase our numbers in better material, lead each to be more careful in selection, more diligent in work and workmanship.

He speaks of the struggles of the Grand Chapter for existence, against the "bulls, edicts, machinations, and secret workings" of those who strove to deter them from replacing the ark upon the long-neglected altar, and rejoices that the battle is over and the victory won. So do we.

The Deputy Grand High Priest reports the issue by him of one dispensation to form a new Chapter, and regrets that circumstances render it impossible for him to be present at the Grand Convocation.

Considerable discussion was had as to the right of the Deputy Grand High Priest to issue a dispensation without the seal of the Grand Chapter being attached. We have always considered that the seal attached to a document emanating from any legally-organized body or its authorized officer was that which gave to it force and effect, which proved its genuineness, and without which it must be ineffective; but this may be an old foggy notion of ours. The illegality of the dispensation was overlooked and a charter was granted.

Comp. D. C. GODWIN presents a good Report on Correspondence, in which he reviews the transactions of twenty-five Grand Chapters and those of the General Grand Chapter. The existence of California is recognized, and two or three sentences are

jerked from the address of the Grand High Priest and thrown in as if the writer was anxious to get nearer home as soon as possible. Under the head of "South Carolina" he says:—

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence not having time since the reception of the proceeding, to prepare a report, gave only their excuse. The committee, however, expressed it as their decided opinion, that committees on Foreign Correspondence have no business to discuss the various points of Masonic law, and to pronounce opinions in relation thereto. We dissent from this view of the duties of these committees. As a matter of course, whatever opinions they express are only the opinions of one or two men, and are to be measured accordingly; but we conceive that it is peculiarly their province to discuss all matters of importance arising in the proceedings, and express their opinions thereon. The dicta of Committees on Foreign Correspondence are one of the great sources of Masonic jurisprudence, and are valued accordingly.

We concur. The mere serving up of a dish of hard facts without note or comment by way of seasoning, presents an entertainment by no means to our taste. We like to know the views and opinions of others as well as to give expression to our own; and if differences of opinion arise, the arguments adduced in support of the views and theories of the various writers, naturally incite the reader to drink himself at the fountains of knowledge, and search with ardor for the truth.

It affords us real pleasure to notice the following:—

The case of Comp. G. W. CHAYTOR, which was referred to this Grand Chapter by the General Grand Chapter of the United States, at its convocation held in Baltimore in September last, was called up; the papers connected therewith not being present, and it appearing that Washington and Lafayette Chapters had expelled him, he was restored by the unanimous vote of this Grand Chapter to all his rights as a companion Royal Arch Mason, by the following resolution offered by Comp. A. V. LESLEY:—

Resolved, That in view of past services to the order and on the request of the members of Washington and Lafayette Chapters, GEO. W. CHAYTOR is hereby restored to the rights of a Royal Arch Mason.

When we consider that Comp. CHAYTOR was for some time a "thorn in the flesh" to the Grand Chapter of Delaware, this action exhibits a degree of magnanimity and true Masonic charity which we can not too highly commend.

There are four subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction, having an aggregate membership of 227.

The *M.: E.:* J. R. McFEE was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R.: E.:* J. P. ALLMOND was reelected Grand Secretary. Address, Wilmington.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Since we commenced our report, the proceedings of this Grand Chapter have come to hand, and we are pleased to be able to give it its proper place and notice. We may properly term this the Grand Chapter of multifarious convocations, as last year six were recorded, while this year one half that number has sufficed.

A Special Convocation was held on the thirtieth day of January, 1871, for the purpose of receiving a report from a committee appointed at a previous convocation to revise the work. The committee submitted their report, recommending various changes in the several degrees, some of which were adopted and others rejected.

A communication was received from the Grand Secretary of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, acknowledging the receipt of a commission for Comp. HAY as Representative of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia near that Grand Body; whereupon a committee was appointed to procure and forward to Comp. HAY the proper jewel and clothing of a Grand Representative, being in this instance that of Grand Scribe. We hope those Grand Chapters we have the honor to represent will follow the example thus nobly set by our companions of the District of Columbia, and each send us a jewel and a suit of clothes.

The Semi-annual Convocation was held on the ninth day of May, 1871. All the Grand Officers except the Grand Master of the Second Vail were present.

Comp. MASON announced that the writings of the late Past Grand High Priest, B. B. FRENCH, had been compiled and were ready for publication, whereupon the following resolution was adopted :—

Resolved, That the committee be requested to ascertain the cost of printing the work, and then to direct a circular to the Grand and subordinate Chapters in the United States, informing them that it is the intention of this Grand Chapter to publish the Masonic and other writings of Comp. B. B. French, and to request them to collect subscriptions for the same at such price as the committee may determine, the subscription to be paid when the work is issued.

We have failed to receive the circular mentioned in the resolution ; nevertheless, if that work is published, we want it and mean to have it.

We were not aware that the practice alluded to in the following resolution existed anywhere ; but, if it obtained in the District of Columbia, the resolution was a good thing to adopt :—

Resolved, That every Chapter in this jurisdiction is prohibited from publishing in any public newspaper the work to be done at any stated or special convocation, and any companion who shall cause the publication of the same shall be subject to Masonic discipline.

The Annual Convocation was held in the city of Washington on the fourteenth day of November, 1871, the *M. E. J. LOCKIE*, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E. E. B. MACGROTTY* acting as Grand Secretary.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is marred by an uncalled for, and we fear rather ill-natured, fling at the General Grand Chapter. In reporting the proceedings of that body he says :—

The next feature of interest was, a resolution requesting of each Grand Chapter three cents from each Royal Arch Mason in its jurisdiction, to be sent as a donation to the General Grand Chapter to enable it to publish its proceedings.

I would therefore recommend a favorable consideration of this petition for charity, as I think it is a rare opportunity of returning good for evil.

The companion is wrong in the first place as to the amount asked for by the General Grand Chapter, it being only one cent instead of three, nor was this amount levied to enable it to publish its proceedings alone, but, in the language of the resolution, “ to defray the necessary expenses of the General Grand Chapter.” The mention of the General Grand Chapter seems to have the same effect upon our District of Columbia Companions that the sight of a red cloth has upon a “ gentleman cow.” It gives them a rush of blood to the head and a desire to gore everything that comes in their way. Since the General Grand Chapter is an established fact, notwithstanding the strenuous efforts put forth to disrupt it, would it not be better, companions, quietly to submit to constituted authority, and give our venerable parent a rest ? So mote it be.

The following extract from the address exhibits a gratifying state of affairs in our sister jurisdiction :—

I am happy to report the past year as one of uninterrupted harmony and prosperity throughout this jurisdiction, and although much work has been done in the several Chapters, so far as I am able to judge, it has been good work, true work, and square work, just such work as this Grand Chapter may be proud to approve.

He closes with the following peroration :—

Finally, my companions, let each one of us endeavor to discharge our duties in the Quarries, in the Orient, or at the dedication of the Temple ; and in the noble and glorious work as weary sojourners, may we execute those sublime plans which have been devised in wisdom, established in strength, and perfected in beauty ; for by so doing we shall secure the approbation and blessing of the God of our fathers here ; and when the Recording Angel shall open the great book, may we be the happy recipients of that pass which will secure to us an abundant entrance within the pearly gates of the Holy of Holies above, there to hear the thrilling announcement reverberating around the jasper walls, crossing the golden streets, bounding through the

rustling leaves of the Tree of Life, and dying away before the Great White Throne, fair in the south, clear in the west, and bright in the east. So mote it be.

How is that for altitude?

The Report on Correspondence is again presented by Comp. JOHN EDWIN MASON, in which is ably reviewed the proceedings of thirty-seven Grand Chapters. California, for 1871, receives fraternal notice. He says of us: "The proceedings are beautifully printed on faultless paper, and bear about them an air of prosperity and elegance. Few States present a better appearance, and none excel it, we are told, in the accuracy of work." He commends our practice of printing the names of members in full, and mournfully propounds the following conundrum: "When will our Grand Chapter order the same system?" We give it up.

He praises the report of our predecessor, except that portion which upholds the General Grand Chapter, which is gall and wormwood to him, and is as welcome, he says, as the "hash on the table of a Washington boarding-house." "'Pears like" some folks never can be satisfied. Under the head of "Canada," he publishes the following interesting letter:—

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE,
GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA,
COLLINGWOOD, ONTARIO, Nov. 4, 1871.

MY DEAR SIR AND R.: E.: COMPANION: Your esteemed favor, of the 21st ult., containing certain queries, has been duly received. I regret that the limited time allowed for a reply is insufficient to enable me to procure for you as full information on the subjects as I could wish. I am confident that the investigation into the early history of Capitular Masonry in Canada would prove highly interesting, and well repay the time expended in such research, and in the course of another year, if thought desirable, I might be able to furnish you with proper dates and more extensive information on the points you suggest. At present, I fear that my replies will be considered somewhat meagre in affording any light on the questions submitted.

1st. It is not very clear when Mark Lodges were first introduced into Canada. At this time, I am only informed of one, which was located at Quebec, and derived its authority from Ireland.

2d. It is equally difficult to determine the first introduction of Royal Arch Masonry into Canada, from the fact that the degree was originally conferred by virtue of a Blue Lodge warrant; but the records of St. John's Lodge, Kingston, exhibit the fact that a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was formed in that place as early as the year 1797, the Companions assuming to themselves the inherent right to hold a Chapter and confer the degree. In addition to this, a Chapter was held, at an early date, in Niagara, and I am credibly informed of a certificate being in existence, belonging to a Companion here, which is dated 1796, and was issued by a Chapter meeting in the city of Quebec, so that there is no doubt that the R. A. Degree was regularly worked in Canada prior to those dates. I may also state that it appears that the Mark, Past and Most Excellent Degrees were not given here before 1801, as they were not considered essential or as necessary to the attainment of the Royal Arch. They were worked from 1801 till 1818, and thereafter discontinued.

3d. At the formation of the Grand Chapter of Canada, in 1857, the Mark and Royal Arch Degrees were united in Chapters as in the United States.

4th. In common with other Grand Chapters, the Grand Chapter of Canada assumed the inherent right to confer the Mark, Past and Most Excellent Degrees, and no necessity existed for any derivation of authority for so doing.

5th. There are no Mark Lodges now existing in the Dominion of Canada, that I am aware of.

6th. The Degrees of Select, Royal and Super-Excellent Masters are conferred in Canada. They were at first given under the authority of a Grand Council in the Province of New Brunswick, and now under the recently established Grand Council for Ontario. This latter was formed at Toronto in August last.

7th. The original Chapters uniting in the formation of the Grand Chapter of Canada, or subsequently affiliating with it, were eleven in number. Of these six were English, four Irish, and one Scotch.

I may also inform you that at the organization of the Grand Chapter of Canada, the constitution of the Grand Chapter of England was adopted, *mutatis mutandis*, as its constitution, with the following reservations:—

That the principal offices should be annually elective. That in order to assimilate with the usages of Royal Arch Masonry in the United States, the three Degrees not recognized by the Grand Chapter of England, the Mark, Past, and Most Excellent, should be taken as a requisite to *membership* in any Chapter under this jurisdiction,

but that R. A. Masons who received their degrees in any regularly warranted Chapter in any other jurisdiction should be admitted as visitors to any Canadian Chapter, when working in the R. A. degree, or in any degree which such visitors should have regularly taken.

I shall be pleased to hear from you again, and to give you any further assistance in my power, and hope that these scraps of information may be of use to you in your researches.

Believe me to remain, dear Sir and R.: E.: Companion,
Yours fraternally,

HENRY ROBERTSON,
Chairman of Foreign Correspondence, Canada.

J. EDWIN MASON, Esq.
Grand Chapter of District of Columbia, Washington.

He attacks Comp. DRUMMOND, of Maine, upon the everlasting substitute question, in the following pointed remarks:—

An elaborate report was made by Companion DRUMMOND in regard to the use of substitutes in conferring the R. A. degree.

In 1869 he was instrumental in getting a resolution passed prohibiting substitutes.

For several years he took strong ground against their use. But now he changes front, and recommends the suspension of the resolution of 1869, and gives for his reasons some statistical data, showing how many Grand Chapters use them!

This is rather thin, and would come from nobody but a lawyer. He winks at the violation of obligation. This is of no account. Usage makes the law. And so he turns a double somersault, comes up on the other horse, and rides gracefully over to the enemy. He was also instrumental getting the "straddle bug" resolutions through the Grand Chapter, at its late session, *protesting* against their use, yet *sanctioning* *their usage!*

And again, he says,—

Comp. DRUMMOND presented an able report on Foreign Correspondence, covering fifty-six pages. The most of it is devoted to a defence of the General Grand Chapter, and abuse of everybody who honestly differs with him on that subject.

He makes the most abject apologies for its wrong-doing, and as reward for this kind of business, was elected General Grand High Priest, at the late session at Baltimore.

There are only two classes who favor the General Grand Chapter: those who hold an office in it and those who want to. We thought our eminent companion belonged to the latter, so we wrote to him several months before the session at Baltimore, and found "Barkis was willin'." Fearing the State of New York would claim this honor again, as she has for so many years past, for her most conceited companions, we "went for" DRUMMOND, and had the pleasure of casting for him the vote of our Grand Chapter, at the late session at Baltimore. He was elected, and we were happy. Others who had laid down and rolled over, and then did not get it, made us think of the story of the colored man who went to hear Whitfield preach, which Comp. DRUMMOND knows all about. So it will be seen that our eminent companion really has "General Grand Chapter on the brain."

We consider the above remarks as in the highest degree unjust toward Comp. DRUMMOND, who, we are informed, consented to take the office of General Grand High Priest, only after the most urgent solicitation on the part of his companions. Comp. DRUMMOND, however, requires no champion in his defence: he is amply able to care for his end of the schooner, and his reply to the assertions of Comp. MASON will be found under the head of Maine.

We are told that Comp. MASON is ordinarily a downright good fellow, and we believe it, notwithstanding the ferocious character of some portions of his writings; he is smooth and courteous enough when discussing ordinary topics, but if the General Grand Chapter is mentioned, he becomes at once a Masonic porcupine, bristling all over with denunciatory quills which he lets fly with a perfect looseness, careless as to who may be wounded thereby.

We were somewhat amused, in fact, we smole a smile, when we read his review of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of New Jersey. We have watched with some degree of curiosity, as well as regret, the progress of the wordy war between him and Comp. CORSON, and although we occupied a position somewhat similar to that of the old lady whose husband was engaged in a desperate encounter with a

bear (didn't care a dash which whipped), after the terrible cathauling which CORSON bestowed upon him last year, we anticipated fun when MASON's reply should appear. Here it is:—

The Annual Convocation was held at Trenton, September 13, 1871, twenty-one Chapters being represented.

Twenty-six Chapters appear on the roll, with a summary of the number of Royal Arch Masons in the State, numbering 2,233.

Grand High Priest Higginbotham delivered a long Address covering nearly eight closely printed pages. Life is too short and time is too precious to read it.

The names of all the members in all the Chapters in the State are printed.

There is nothing else in the proceedings worth noticing.

This is too bad; it is altogether too hard on CORSON; in fact, a refinement of cruelty; not notice him at all? "nothing in the proceedings worth noticing?" We fear CORSON will never survive this "unkindest cut of all."

Comp. MASON, in concluding his report, says:—

In battling for the right, against fearful odds, in the dark days when our Grand Chapter was pronounced to be clandestine by the General Grand High Priest of the United States, and refused recognition by a few Grand Chapters, it was decided to give hard words and hard blows wherever we *first* received them. Like the old man in the fable, we threw grass first, and then stones. Looking back over this policy of past years, we would not change it, were we to fight our battles over again.

And now that our battle is ended and the victory won, and this Grand Chapter in fraternal correspondence with a larger number of Grand Chapters than *any other on the globe*, we believe it the proper time for us to make our valedictory bow and retire from this field of hard labor. This we have contemplated doing for a long time. We have entered into more extensive fields of literary labor, and can find no time to prepare these reports. All our leisure hours are now employed in literary labor, outside of Freemasonry. But within the mystic circle, the literary labor staring us in the face is not light.

We are sorry to lose from the reportorial corps so able a writer as Comp. MASON. We have read with deep regret some portions of his reports, and wished most devoutly that they had never been written. Yet, notwithstanding these blemishes, his reviews were always ably written, interesting, and instructive.

We can forgive him a great deal for the valuable reports he has given us on England and Scotland. Through his efforts, the barriers of prejudice and exclusiveness within which our companions of the old world have so long entrenched themselves, have been broken down, and fraternal intercourse and correspondence has been inaugurated.

In the war he has waged against the General Grand Chapter, we feel very much as did the sailor who saw an irate bull attack a locomotive—we admire his pluck, but doubt his judgment. He has done no harm to the General Grand Chapter but that was not his fault, so we forgive him for what he did not do. The worst feature of his reports is, his somewhat bitter and uncalled for attacks upon individuals of high standing in the Order; but, as the effect of these attacks has been only to stir up the bile of the individuals in question, we forgive him that, too; in fact, Comp. MASON, we feel inclined to grant you full absolution, and in bidding you farewell, we wish you all the happiness you have the capacity to enjoy.

There are eight Chapters in the jurisdiction, with an aggregate membership of 910; and the fact that not one rejection, suspension, or expulsion occurred during the year under review, is certainly suggestive of peace and harmony. Long may they enjoy it.

The *M. E.* J. DANIELS was elected Grand High Priest and the *R. E.* C. W. HANCOCK was elected Grand Secretary.

ENGLAND.

We have had no correspondence with the Grand Chapter of England, but others have been more fortunate. Comp. MASON, of the District of Columbia, has succeeded in opening a correspondence with this hitherto most exclusive Grand Body, and

we trust he will excuse us for appropriating so much of his report. The letters of Comp. HUGHAN are exceedingly interesting, and we hope they will be continued. Comp. MASON says :—

We have received officially the proceedings of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England for the "quarterly convocations" of August 5, 1868; November 4, 1868; February 3, 1869; May 5, 1869; August 4, 1869; November 3, 1869; February 2, 1870, and May 4, 1870. *M. E. Comp.* Earl DeGrey and Ripon, K. G. Z; *M. E. Comp.* The Earl of Carnarvon, H.; *M. E. Comp.* The Lord de Tafley, J.; *E. Comp.* John Hervey, E.; and a full complement of other officers presided over the deliberations of the Grand Chapter at its stated convocations.

The total number of Chapters on the roll number 1222, and are scattered over every part of the world. They are chartered in connection with some lodge, and not separate and distinct in their chartered rights from symbolic Masonry, as in Scotland and the United States.

The Royal Arch is the only degree known in English Chapters; the Mark degree being conferred in Mark Lodges, and the Past Master and Most Excellent Master unknown.

The following is cut from the proceedings :—

"A correspondence with the recently formed Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, and a circular upon the same subject from the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, have been laid before the committee, which they have carefully perused, and now submit to the consideration of the Supreme Grand Chapter. They suggest, however, that the Grand Lodge of England, having recognized the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, the Supreme Grand Chapter of England has scarcely anything to do in the matter. The Supreme Grand Chapters of England and Scotland are in very different positions; the former only issuing charters to be attached to lodges under the English Constitution, and being in close alliance with the Grand Lodge, such charters would naturally cease upon the severance of the lodges in Nova Scotia from that Constitution. The latter, not being united or in any way connected with the Lodges under the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, issues its charters totally irrespective of that body, and consequently the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland is quite at liberty to pursue a totally independent course."

In all parts of the United States the valuable contribution to our knowledge of Capitular Masonry made by *M. E. Comp.* William James Hughan, of Truro, England, and published in our proceedings last year, has been read and widely copied.

Our thanks have been officially tendered to him from our Grand Chapter, and the thanks of companions in all parts of the United States have come to us, for obtaining and publishing so much valuable Masonic information.

We take pleasure in laying before the companions of the District of Columbia, and also in other jurisdictions, another letter from Comp. Hughan, for which he will please accept our thanks.

It is briefer than the one published last year, and is a review of our proceedings for 1870 from an English standpoint, and gives his views about Masonry in the United States. We propose to answer some of his questions, but cannot reply to all of them without putting on paper the secret work of the Chapter, which would be impossible.

The following letter is given entire :—

"TRURO, ENGLAND, 28th Sept., 1871.

"To the Worthy Chairman of Foreign Correspondence, D. O.

"Dear Bro. Dr. MASON :

"I write at once on receipt of your esteemed communication of the 7th inst., to say that by some unexplained cause, your "long letter" has never reached me. I had, first of all, a most fraternal communication from you, dated April 8, 1870, which was duly answered, and the reply inserted at length in the excellent report of the 'Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia,' 1870.

"I subsequently received a letter from your Grand Secretary, Bro. N. D. LARNER, thanking me for my sketch of the Craft in Europe, and informing me of the most flattering vote of your Grand Chapter. The Grand Secretary, at the same time, very kindly forwarded ten copies of the Report for my distribution in this country, which I have done accordingly, and the recipients have been equally pleased as myself with the good spirit and Masonic zeal which is reflected throughout its pages; and more particularly are we gratified with the 'Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence,' as we have presented to us in a nutshell an epitomized history of Royal Arch Masonry in the United States.

"The letter from Comp. LARNER is dated February 3d, 1871, and I can assure you that these two are all the communications I have received. Indeed, I sent to Comp. FELLOWS, of Manchester, N. H., (a fast Masonic friend of mine, who wrote me directly the Report by your Grand Chapter was published,) to see or write you, as I

had not heard from you of receipt of my letter of April 28th, 1870. I regret the non-receipt of your letter exceedingly, as for certain it was well worth a perusal, and thus the loss is mine irretrievably.

"So much by way of explanation. I now will write you a few remarks on the report itself of 1870, so as to set right any misconceptions with respect to the Craft in Europe, and will do so to you annually, on receipt of each report, if you so desire.

"I think we, as Royal Arch companions and as Masons, are bound to communicate what information we can to the 'general store;' and therefore, if the Grand Chapter, at their assembly, desire any subject with respect to the Craft in my country to be elucidated, it is only for that illustrious body to propound a series of questions to me to secure their being answered.

"1. G. Chapter of Alabama:

"'No substitutes are allowed in Alabama in conferring the R. A. degree. Can you tell me the origin of the custom thus to require *three* candidates at each exaltation?' I have the earliest Constitution of the Royal Arch for England (from whence American R. A. Masonry was derived), but they contain no such requirement as to non-substitution; and the custom in this country, Scotland, and Ireland, has always been to admit one or more candidates at a Convocation, irrespective of there being *three* or otherwise.

"I am confident that the stringent regulation which prevails in Alabama, and in other Grand Chapters in the United States, will be gradually repealed, as it is calculated to do harm instead of good. Example: three candidates present themselves for exaltation. One is most unsuitable, and yet as the friends of the other two candidates desire an exaltation to take place, they vote for the *third*, as otherwise their friends would have to wait for another meeting. In this way improper candidates might be accepted; and, for my part, I cannot see any grounds for such a law.

"2. Grand Chapter of Arkansas:

"'Dropping of the Past Master's degree.' This is a question which is bound to crop up and demand consideration. In England the degree is given to a duly elected Master to the Chair of a Craft Lodge, and then only in the presence of three or more installed Masters. It is only under the authority of the Grand Lodge, and P. M.'s of the Royal Arch making are not admitted to any of their assemblies.

"In Scotland the degree is given *as with you*, under the Grand Chapter, and as the *fifth* in Capitular Freemasonry.

"There is, however, a probability of the G. Chapter of Scotland waiving their right to work this degree, provided the Grand Lodge would take it under their superintendence. I mention this because, unless the Grand Lodge of Arkansas (and so for all jurisdictions) is ready to assume the authority to confer the Past Master's degree, as with the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania (which is the nearest to the English Rite of any in the United States), it would be absurd to "drop" the degree, as it would then be without a head. It is quite certain that candidates for the R. A. during the last century were required to take the P. M. as a necessary prerequisite in this country, and the degree was conferred in a Craft Lodge, in order to enable candidates for the R. A. to be in possession of all the preliminaries to exaltation.

"3. Grand Chapter of Canada:

"The 'Mark Grand Lodge of England' has been recognized by Canadian authorities, and wisely so, because it is the only governing body for Mark Masonry in England. The Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter have both refused to take it under their wings, and hence the Lodges of the Mark degree have formed their own Grand Lodge, and have about 100 warrants in active operation. I have the honor of being a Past Grand Overseer of this body, and hope to see the day when the Grand Chapter of Scotland (to which I owe allegiance) will recognize it. The Grand Chapter of Ireland acknowledges its certificates, and the Grand Conclave of Knights Templar, and the Supreme Grand Council 33° for England have formed a treaty with it, and recognized it as the only legitimate governing body for Mark Masons in England. A conference was held in London, in April last, to consider the question as to its recognition by the Grand Chapters of Scotland and Ireland, and at which these bodies were represented, as also the Grand Lodge of Scotland (which permits the Mark degree to be given in a Craft Lodge), and much *good* is likely to result from their deliberations.

"32. The 'Council degrees,' I quite agree with you (at page 30 of your excellent and most racy report), are not suitable for incorporation with the Grand Chapters of the United States, and I hope yet that Virginia will expel them from its rule and permit its members to manage their own affairs. They are simply copies of degrees under the Ancient and Accepted Rite, and, like that body, are nothing like so ancient as Royal Arch Masonry.

"4. Grand Chapter of Maryland:

"The 'Council Degrees' are likewise in question at page 51, and it is evident, for the sake of consistency and Masonic custom, the Grand Chapters act most unwisely in endeavoring to control such an organization. These 'Council Degrees' have just

been introduced into England from the United States, where they were manufactured; but really we are already suffering from a plethoric of Masonic degrees, many of which are of questionable antiquity and of little worth, and therefore the introduction of more such is to be lamented. There are many in this country, and their number is on the increase, who would vote for the retention only of Craft and Royal Arch Masonry, and let the money spent in supporting the other organizations be devoted to that 'distinguishing characteristic of a Freemason's heart—charity.'

"5. Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia:

"The remarks at page 67 are sound, and will bear investigation. The Mark Grand Lodge has Lodges under its banner which have worked the degree for more than a century, and certainly if any body has a right to confer the degree, *it has*.

"6. Grand Chapter of England.

"It is *not true* that Royal Arch Masonry in England 'is monopolized by the aristocracy and nobility.' The degree is as much open to worthy men as the Craft, and we defy any one to prove otherwise. We regret the Grand Chapter does nothing by way of representation, and thus unfavorably contrasts with the excellent system pursued in Scotland; but for all that, it is nothing like an oligarchy, and its isolated system is entirely owing to the union of A. D. 1813, which connected it so completely with the Craft Grand Lodge, and which proclaimed the Royal Arch to be the 'completion of the third degree.' Hence the Grand Chapter is virtually represented by the members of the Grand Lodge, whose chief is the First Principal of the Grand Chapter *ex officio*. I am delighted the Grand Chapter of Scotland has exchanged Representatives with the Grand Chapter of Columbia.

"I conclude with best wishes to you and all worthy companions in the United States,

"And remain yours fraternally.

"WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN."

Comp. MASON comments upon the foregoing letter as follows:—

It is with great pleasure that we lay the above letter before our American Masons, as it gives much information from an English standpoint in Masonry.

We shall certainly propound questions to our learned Companion annually, and ask his advice and criticism freely. If Masons would only communicate what information they possess, as frankly as our worthy Companion, there would not be so much ignorance on both sides of the Atlantic about Masonry.

In regard to the questions asked, we will try and answer them with our American eyes and ears, and heart fully in love with the Capitular Masonry we practice in the United States.

1st. He asks why no substitutes are allowed in conferring the Royal Arch Degree in most of the States in America. We cannot answer this question without referring him to the O. B., and the secret work of that degree. He will understand that we cannot put on paper what we could explain to him verbally. The symbolism is explained so well by Companion LUKE A. LOCKWOOD, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for Connecticut, in his report for 1871, that we copy it as follows:—

"Why was the number three fixed upon? We venture to suggest in response to this inquiry, so far as it is proper so to do in writing, that the grand central point and the object of the Mason's work through all the degrees, and the final reward he receives for his labor, could not be obtained unless in the presence of three companions. Three has by all people and from all time been esteemed the symbol of Deity, and is therefore intimately connected with what immediately pertains to His name and presence. This will be perceived in the compact of our three Ancient Grand Masters, in the Broken Triangle, and at a later day in the three Ancient Brethren, the types of our Grand Master, who went up to rebuild the temple and city of Jehovah. They sought that which was lost, and as a condition of its finding, the same number three must be present to receive it, as by the absence of one it had many years before been lost. The representation is historical, and so long as the facts of the traditional history are preserved and the presence of *three weary sojourners* is secured to receive the lost treasure, the design of the requirement, in our judgment, is fully answered. It is impossible to further amplify and illustrate these last suggestions upon paper, but many other confirmatory circumstances will be readily suggested pointing to the same grand design."

In the District of Columbia no substitutes are allowed, and no inconvenience is ever felt in consequence of it. Wherever the custom prevails of using substitutes, it is pleaded as a matter of *convenience* and nothing more, like the plea entered by Comp. HUGHAN. It is a matter of *principle* with us that prohibits their use, and a desire not to violate our obligations. When one of our Chapters in this city has but two candidates for the Royal Arch, they go to the M. E. H. P. of another Chapter and take one of their candidates waiting for this degree, and make up the trio. In this way we borrow and lend candidates and experience no trouble whatever. At

the late Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter at Baltimore, a resolution was passed *allowing* substitutes, but *strongly condemning their use*, and urging Grand Chapters to prohibit the practice. So our General Grand Chapter sits straddle the fence on this question, as it does on most others.

2d. In regard to the question of dropping the Past Master's degree referred to by Comp. HUGHAN, the question has often been settled by the Royal Craft in America, and there is no prospect of ever "dropping that degree," as one of those conferred in American Chapters.

A very insignificant number of Royal Arch Masons have agitated the question of "dropping the degree." These finally got the question before the General Grand Chapter at its late Triennial Convocation in Baltimore, where a discussion for two hours was given them, and it was decided not to "drop it" by an almost unanimous vote.

There is no more probability of any Grand Lodge in the United States assuming authority over and conferring the Past Master's degree, than there is of any Grand Chapter assuming authority over the Master Mason's degree, and working it as a part of the Royal Arch, or the Fellow Craft as a part of the Mark Master's degree, for both are closely assimilated to each other.

3d. It seems too bad that the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of England should both refuse to take the Mark Master's degree under their wings. In England it seems to be an orphan without protection, and like Japhet in search of a father. It had better join hands with the Red Cross in Knighthood, which is another orphan in the same situation, everywhere except in the United States, where it is allowed only by courtesy. These degrees might join hands and get married.

4th. The Select, Royal, and Super Excellent Master's degrees, as you may be advised, are not conferred in *Chapters* in any States except Maryland and Virginia, where they were added to the degrees in the *Chapters* at a time many years ago, when Lodges, Chapters, and Councils all became nearly extinct during the days of anti-Masonry. The degrees were united in Virginia, we believe, in 1841, and have since then been conferred in Chapters. The Super Excellent Master's degree has never been conferred in Maryland or Virginia, and the Select and Royal degrees are strangely sandwiched between the Most Excellent Master's and Royal Arch, same as they were in the District of Columbia previous to the organization of our Grand Chapter in 1867. Since that date no Council degrees have ever been conferred in Chapters in Washington, and they are prohibited from being so conferred by a standing resolution of our Grand Chapter. A Council has since been established here, where all three degrees are conferred as they are all over the United States, and it is in a very flourishing condition.

This gives our experience in the District of Columbia with Cryptic and Capitular Masonry.

5th. There are Grand Councils now in twenty-nine States, and Cryptic Masonry is quite as flourishing in the United States as Symbolic or Capitular. Our oldest Chapter in the United States is *St. Andrew's*, at Boston, chartered from Scotland in 1769. Only a few Chapters existed previous to 1810, and these were in a very precarious condition, and in about the same situation Symbolic Masonry was found. About this date, and for a few years previous, and immediately succeeding the war of 1812 with Great Britain, Masonry took a start, and became quite a flourishing Order. For twenty years afterward all branches of Masonry were very popular. It was during this period that Cryptic Masonry was introduced, and the Knights Templar also got a foothold in the United States.

Boston Council of Select, Royal, and Super Excellent Masters was chartered in 1817, Springfield Council in 1818, and Salem Council in 1818. In nearly all the old States on the Atlantic coast Cryptic Masonry was established about these years; so it will be seen that these degrees have been worked in the United States from fifty to sixty years. In half a century they have been firmly planted on our soil.

We trust our English brethren will not unite any other degrees with their Councils, as the companions in New Brunswick have done. A singular condition of things exists there at present. A new Grand Council was formed in New Brunswick two years ago, from authority from Maine, conferring the Select, Royal, and Super Excellent Master's degrees. As the Red Cross was now allowed to be conferred in their commanderies, by their charters, they conceived a brilliant idea of gobbling up this "soup degree," and placing it *in their Councils*, where it is now conferred. They would have placed it in their Chapters probably, but they had no Grand Chapter in New Brunswick, and got their charters from England and Scotland, where such things are not allowed.

The strangest part of this performance is that these companions appealed to Companion GARDNER, Grand Master of Knights Templar of the United States, to sustain them, and he issued an edict with all the gravity in the world, ordering all Knights Templar in the United States to recognize these Red Cross Knights *made in*

a Council of Select, Royal, and Super Excellent Masters! But the Masonic world look upon the whole affair as a very good joke, too good to keep quiet.

We do not deem it necessary to offer any apology for embodying the foregoing in our report. The prime object to be obtained by reports on correspondence is, as we understand it, to gather and disseminate information; and that contained in the matter we have copied, is sufficiently interesting to justify us in giving it the space occupied.

GEORGIA.

The Grand Chapter of Georgia held its Annual Convocation in the city of Augusta on the twenty-fourth day of April, 1872,—the *M. E.* MOSES P. KELLOGG, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* J. EMMETT BLACKSHEAR being Grand Secretary. All the Grand Officers were present, and thirty-nine chartered Chapters and two under dispensation were represented.

The Grand High Priest in his address says:—

5. Many questions have been propounded and answers returned, but as most of them came under the head of well-established Masonic usage, I pass them by in this report, remarking, in this connection, that a lively interest seems to animate the subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction to keep within proper constitutional requirements and abide by all established rules, so far as they may come to their knowledge.

We note the following decisions:—

1st. An applicant for the Chapter degrees, residing in South Carolina, but doing business in Augusta, Georgia, was duly elected by the Chapter having proper jurisdiction, and their request, under seal, was forwarded to Augusta Chapter, No. 1, asking, as an act of courtesy, that the degrees be conferred by them. On the presentation of the applicant, the point was made by Companion RUSSELL, Past Grand Secretary, that as a mere formality, no objection existing to the candidate, either as a man or Mason, it was necessary that Augusta Chapter should spread the ballot. The High Priest and members objected, and applied to me for instruction. As the applicant was favorably known to the Augusta companions, and the evidence of his election indubitable, I directed the High Priest to proceed without spreading the ballot.

2d. Companion GLENN, G. K., raised this point: Can Mount Zion Chapter, Atlanta, entertain the application of a companion Royal Arch Mason for affiliation, holding a dimit and residing within the territorial jurisdiction of another Chapter?

I expressed my opinion in the affirmative—based, as I consider, upon the broad Masonic principle that every Mason has the right to choose his companions and affiliate wherever he may elect—provided, always, that he be acceptable to the members of his choice.

In both which decisions we concur.

Two dispensations for the formation of new Chapters were granted. The Grand High Priest explains the absence of a Report on Correspondence on three grounds: first, that the state of the funds does not justify the expense; second, that no committee on correspondence had been appointed; and lastly, that in 1861, by a unanimous vote of the Grand Chapter, the Committee on Correspondence was abolished. He quietly hints, however, that it is not yet too late to appoint a committee and have a report prepared in time for publication with the proceedings. The Grand Chapter took no action in the premises, and no report appears.

He gets off a good one on Oregon in the following, and we confess that were we in Comp. PATTON's place we would "consent to let Honors remain easy":—

The Proceedings of Georgia have been generally received, carefully reviewed, and kindly approved. The Reviewer of Oregon takes Companion LAWRENCE to task for inexcusable ignorance, living as he does in the heart of civilization, of the *public* Grand Honors of R. A. Masonry, as reported by the South Carolina Reviewer, and congratulates himself that "Oregon is ahead of Georgia in one thing at least"—whereupon the Carolina Reviewer, in his next issue, makes this explanation: "The *public* Grand Honors in our last was a *misprint* for *private*. Perhaps Oregon will consent to 'let the Honors remain easy'—'evermore.'"

He devotes the principal part of his address to defending himself against the strictures of Comp. CORSON upon a portion of his last year's address. We also took

occasion to notice the paragraph in question, and we can not see that Comp. KELLOGG has strengthened his position by his labored defense. We are opposed to discussing religious questions in reports of this character, especially as we have had our say and don't mean to take it back.

From the Grand Treasurer's report, we learn that he has a balance on hand of \$44 09, while the liabilities of the Grand Chapter amount to \$2031 20. Under these circumstances the Grand Treasurer recommends repudiation as the easiest way out of the difficulty. We think the better way would be to assess the subordinate Chapters in a sufficient amount to pay the current expenses of the Grand Chapter. In California we pay our delegates their actual traveling expenses to and from the place of meeting, but we pay them no hash fees nor per diem. A portion of the dues of subordinate Chapters is set aside as a Representative Fund to cover the traveling expenses of delegates. A resolution was finally adopted assessing the subordinates one dollar for each member, borne upon their rolls, in addition to their regular dues.

There are fifty-two Chapters in this jurisdiction, with an aggregate membership of 2003.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted :—

Resolved, That any High Priest of a subordinate Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, who will not (after private admonition has failed to produce reform) institute proceedings against the members of his Chapter guilty of profanity, drunkenness, or any other licentious conduct in conflict with the teachings and law of Masonry, shall be held responsible by this Grand Chapter of gross neglect of duty, and a failure to perform the legitimate functions of his office.

The *M. E.* GEORGE W. ADAMS was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* J. EMMETT BLACKSHEAR was reelected Grand Secretary. Address, Macon.

ILLINOIS.

The Grand Chapter of Illinois held its twenty-second Annual Convocation in the city of Chicago, on the sixth day of October, 1871, the *M. E.* AUGUSTUS A. MURRAY, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* JAMES H. MILES being Grand Secretary.

One hundred and twenty-five subordinate Chapters were represented. The Grand High Priest delivered a lengthy Address, principally devoted to a record of his official acts and a review of the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter. He says:—

We stand before the world in an important aspect. Intelligent, well-meaning men recognize in us and our Noble Fraternity no second rate moral power; and while croakers and fogies are content to live within the limits of their own sordid and selfish aims and deeds, and to condemn whatever might help mankind to rise to better and nobler views of human life and destiny, the benedictions of the truly wise and good rest on our noble and glorious work.

And why should they not? Our Banner floats on every breeze, bearing on its ample folds an influence sufficient to convince the wondering world that our motive is progress, growth, improvement, and that the welfare of an undivided and indivisible humanity is our noble inspiration.

He gives us in the following, a touch of—

“The universal Yankee nation,
The greatest country in all creation.”

With the most fertile soil in the world, the broadest prairies, the grandest commercial interests, the best schools, and the indomitable spirit of American people, who are always rushing to the accomplishment of impossibilities and solving problems before which the Old World stands in dumb amazement, who can conceive of the glorious future that awaits us.

Five dispensations had been granted for the formation of new Chapters, and thirteen for special purposes.

He recommends the appointment of a “Grand Inspector,” whose duty it shall be to visit every Chapter, examine the work and records, and correct them if erroneous; said officer to be paid from the funds of the Grand Chapter, except his traveling expenses and board, which are to be paid by the Chapters.

He is evidently loyal to the General Grand Chapter, and he exposes some of the misrepresentations by which his Grand Chapter was induced to instruct its representatives to vote for a dissolution of the former body. He says :—

It will be remembered that at the last Annual Convocation of this Grand Body, the Representatives to the General Grand Chapter were instructed to vote for the dissolution of that Body.

Your Representatives are of the opinion that if they had been aware of the true state of feeling existing in the different Grand Chapters, such instructions would not have been given.

It was represented to this Grand Chapter that a large number of the States were favorable and pledged to vote for such dissolution—that already a large number of States had seceded, and but the fewest number acknowledged the Jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter.

Your Representatives now have the pleasure of reporting to this Grand Body that a different feeling exists; that, as before stated, thirty-one States were represented in the General Grand Chapter, leaving but six States of this Great Republic unrepresented.

Two of those, who had formally passed the act of secession, have since repented of their sins and have knocked at the door of the General Grand Body for re-admission, viz., Vermont and Iowa, presenting such testimonials of their willingness and determination in the future to bear true allegiance to that Body, that they were received with open arms and made welcome to their Father's house.

The State of Florida has also been added to the already large constellation of States, avowing her allegiance and support to the said Grand Body.

The good feeling and unanimity manifested upon the occasion was such as to impress upon the minds of your Representatives that great good would result to Royal Arch Masonry by the continued existence of the General Grand Body, and that the only reason which has prompted the action of the several State Grand Bodies, against this Grand Body, was that they did not fully understand the relation existing, or that should exist, between this General Grand Body and the several State Grand Bodies.

A testimonial was presented to Past Grand High Priest JOHN M. PEARSON, as a token of appreciation of his valuable services to the Grand Chapter, but as to the nature of the testimonial we are left painfully in doubt.

The following communication, which illustrates the wisdom of one of our constitutional provisions, was presented :—

To the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Illinois :

Upon a petition presented to M. E. JAS. H. MILES, when he was Deputy Grand High Priest, a dispensation was granted by him, dated 17th of February, A. D. 1868, A. I. 2398, to certain companions to open a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, to be called Home Chapter; and among the companions who signed the petition for said dispensation were companions W. H. BOOMER, M. A. THAYER and G. N. HOUGHTON (whose names are in the dispensation and in the charter subsequently granted), formerly members of Corinthian Chapter R. A. M. No. 69. And whereas, Corinthian Chapter No. 69 R. A. M., and the said new Chapter of R. A. M. (now known as Chicago Chapter No. 127 R. A. M.), have continued since the granting of the charter and opening of said Chicago Chapter No. 127 R. A. M., on the 17th of October, 1868, to claim the three said companions as members, and each claiming dues from said companions; it is therefore desired that the Grand Chapter decide to which Chapter these three companions belong.

The Constitution of the Grand Chapter of California provides that no dispensation shall be granted unless the petition for the same be accompanied by the "certificate of withdrawal" of each petitioner from the Chapter of which he was last a member. Where this course is pursued there can be no difficulty or dispute as to membership.

The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom the matter was referred, found it too hard a nut to crack and took a year to consider it.

The Committee on Charity reported that "owing to the blessing of the Supreme High Priest" in casting their lot in the State of Illinois, and the "unbounded charity of the companions in their Chapters and as individuals," no impecunious individual had disturbed the tranquility of their official existence.

The Grand Treasurer reports a balance on hand of \$2023 75. The Grand Secretary, Comp. JAMES H. MILES, again presents the Report on Correspondence, in which he reviews the transactions of thirty-seven Grand Chapters, California for 1871 receiving

a flying notice. Perhaps Comp. MILES thought as MASON did of New Jersey's proceedings, that there was nothing in them worth noticing. Well, as we had nothing to do with the proceedings of that year, we have no right, perhaps, to find fault, but we don't desire to be turned off on such short commons. We consider ourselves to be "some pumpkins," and if we have not the "most fertile soil in the world, the broadest prairies, the grandest commercial interest, and the best schools," we think we have, and we *know* that we have the "indomitable spirit of American people," and if we do not receive a more extended notice in his next report, we shall feel very much like exhibiting a specimen of that spirit by reducing *Miles* to inches.

The pamphlet containing the proceedings is a remarkably handsome one, of one hundred and twenty pages, and for neatness, typographically and otherwise, is not excelled by any which have come before us.

Whole number of Chapters, 147; membership, 9000. Eight hundred and thirty-three were exalted during the year, and the increase of membership from last year is 605. This we consider to be a remarkably good year's work, provided the specimens are such as will pass the test of the Master Overseer's square, and we rejoice to see such evidences of prosperity among our companions across the Sierras.

A report from a Committee on Grievances is so rarely discovered nowadays that we feel like making the most of one when we find it. Complaint was made that one of the subordinates had at various times within ten years trespassed upon the jurisdiction of a neighboring Chapter, to the extent of nine Royal Arch Masons; and judgment was asked for the value of these nine, (enough for a new Chapter,) and that the offending Chapter be required to apologize to the complainant for poaching upon their premises. The committee to whom the complaint was referred rendered judgment in the sum of sixty dollars, and admonished the offender to keep hereafter within their own boundaries; the apology however was quietly ignored.

The *M. E.* JAMES A. HAWLEY was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* JAMES H. MILES was reelected Grand Secretary.—Address, 49 S. May St., Chicago.

INDIANA.

The twenty-seventh Annual "Communication" of the Grand Chapter of Indiana was held in the city of Indianapolis on the twenty-third day of October, 1872,—the *M. E.* REES J. CHESNUTWOOD, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* JOHN M. BRAMWELL being Grand Secretary.

Seventy-five subordinate Chapters were represented at the opening. The Grand High Priest delivered a good Address, the subject matter of which is principally of local interest. He says:—

I congratulate you upon the favorable circumstances under which we assemble. Notwithstanding disease and death have been abroad in our land, yet, so far as I am advised, not one of our number has fallen, no discordant sounds are heard among the craftsmen, but peace and harmony prevail throughout our jurisdiction. Let us then, with grateful hearts, return thanks to the Grand High Priest of Heaven and earth for these blessings.

My duties during the past year have been comparatively light. No difficult questions to answer; no strife or contention has been visible, but each companion has profited by the Masonic lessons so beautifully taught, to avoid strife and contention, except that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who can best work and best agree.

The Grand Chapter made liberal donations to the suffering companions in Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin, having appropriated \$200 dollars to each of these jurisdictions, and the grateful responses of the recipients are set forth in the Address of the Grand High Priest.

All honor to Indiana; may she never need a reciprocal favor; truly, in *such* cases it is more "blessed to give than receive." He reports the issue of five dispensations to form new Chapters, and four dispensations for special purposes. Eleven Chapters were reported as having been delinquent in making their returns and paying their

dues, and the charter of one was arrested. Representatives were appointed near the Grand Chapters of Kansas and Mississippi.

A speck of war having risen between two of the subordinates relative to a question of jurisdiction, the matter was referred to the Committee on Grievances, who reported that, owing to the fact that no evidence had been laid before them, they could arrive at no conclusion in the premises, but recommended that the whole matter be referred to the Grand High Priest, for such action as he might deem it advisable to pursue. From the reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary it appears that the Grand Chapter is very comfortably situated so far as finances are concerned; the balance in the treasury being reported as \$4314 88, and the total assets, \$9814 88.

The Report on Correspondence was presented by the Grand High Priest, who ably reviews the transactions of thirty-two Grand Chapters. There appears to have been some difficulty in making the connection between Indiana and California for two years past, but we hope to be able to devise some means by which our proceedings may in future reach our companions of Indiana. Last year we did not receive theirs, and this year they hear of us through the medium of Delaware.

In his review of the proceedings of Delaware, he says:—

From his selections of the proceedings of California (which we have not received), we take the following: Their seventeenth Annual Convocation was held on the 11th of April, 1871. Twenty-nine chartered Chapters and three under dispensation were represented. Peace and harmony prevail throughout the jurisdiction. The appointment of representatives near other Grand Bodies they adopt as attendant of much benefit to the Craft. *M. E.* JAMES L. ENGLISH was elected G. H. Priest, and *R. E.* C. L. WIGGIN, Grand Secretary. Their exaltations average over sixty to each subordinate Chapter. I think this must be a misprint.

We should think so! We are in the habit of accomplishing great results in California, but an average of sixty exaltations to each Chapter is a little too stupendous even for us. Upon examining our table of statistics for that year we find that reports were received from thirty-nine Chapters; total number of exaltations, 244; making an average of six and a fraction to each Chapter. We think our Delaware friend must have employed one of CORSON'S microscopes in examining that table.

The Committee on Correspondence (for it appears there was one), must have had an arduous task, according to the following report:—

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence have carefully examined the able and elaborate report submitted by the Most Excellent Grand High Priest on that subject, and recommend that it be incorporated in the proceedings of the Grand Chapter, as a faithful *resume* of the proceedings of the several Grand Chapters in correspondence with us. The report contains much that will be found instructive and of interest to all the Craft.

Happy Committee, and most accommodating Grand High Priest. We wish our Grand High Priest was sufficiently amiable to write our report for us; we would gladly make a supplemental report in six lines, and praise his report as high as six lines would carry it. But there is no such good luck for us.

Eighty-three chartered Chapters and four under dispensation are borne upon the registry, with an aggregate membership of 4116; increase for the year, 359.

The *M. E.* EDEN H. DAVIS was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* JOHN M. BRAMWELL was reelected Grand Secretary.

Address, Indianapolis.

IOWA.

The eighteenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Iowa was held in the city of Oskaloosa on the sixteenth day of October, 1872,—the *M. E.* EDWARD A. GUILBERT, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* W. B. LANGRIDGE being Grand Secretary.

As is usual in this jurisdiction, the first page of the pamphlet containing the proceedings of the Grand Chapter, introduces to us the Grand High Priest. Comp. GUIL-

BERT looks like a man who, knowing his duty, would do it all hazards; the deep furrows upon his brow give evidence of a reflective mind, and we should judge that his organ of firmness was well developed; should he turn his attention to feats of arms, we doubt not he would prove a worthy representative of the valiant *Brian de Bois Guilbert*, from whom, we understand, he is lineally descended.

At the opening of the Grand Chapter, the representatives of forty-four subordinate Chapters were present, together with a number of Past Grand High Priests, Deputy Grand High Priests, Grand Kings, and Grand Scribes, *entitled to seats*.* All Royal Arch Masons in good standing were invited to be present, and they too, we presume, were entitled to seats, provided they could find them. The Grand High Priest commenced his address with the cheering announcement that no officer or member of the Grand Chapter had been removed by death from their companionship during the year, and that peace and prosperity prevailed throughout the jurisdiction.

We are somewhat puzzled at the following:—

Learning from the Grand Secretary, soon after our last annual gathering, that Past Grand High Priest LUSE had, during his term of office, caused to be carefully prepared a copy in full of the work you had previously adopted, and that he was desirous that it should come into the possession of this Grand Body, I directed our efficient Grand Secretary to communicate with him and effect a purchase of that copy. Accordingly this was done, the Past Grand High Priest disposing of the same at the price he actually paid for the copy, viz., \$50, and the work is now deposited in the archives of the Grand Chapter. I respectfully ask that my action in this matter be confirmed, and that an order be drawn in favor of the Grand Secretary for the aforesaid \$50, believing, as I do, that it is money well spent.

Is the *work* of Royal Arch Masonry allowed to be written in Iowa? and that too under the direction and by the authority of the Grand High Priest? If we mistake not, the Past Grand High Priest of another jurisdiction was not long since expelled for a similar act, notwithstanding he was a *Czar*, and a member of the illustrious house of *Jones*. But perhaps we have misunderstood the purport of the paragraph, and we reserve our comments until further advised.

Two dispensations were issued for the formation of new Chapters.

Representatives were appointed and duly accredited near the following Grand Bodies, viz.: the Grand Mark Lodge of England and the Grand Chapters of Michigan, New York, New Jersey, and Louisiana.

The Grand High Priest regrets that "the terribly engrossing nature" of his "necessary vocations" prevented him from making a general visitation to the subordinate Chapters. He recognizes the importance of such official visits, and recommends that some plan be adopted whereby the desired object may be attained. We would suggest the appointment of one or more of the Grand Officers, whose necessary vocations are not of the "terribly engrossing" character, as a visiting committee. He reports the purchase of an official seal, to be affixed to all documents emanating from the office of the Grand High Priest. In this jurisdiction all official documents issued by the Grand High Priest, bear the seal of the Grand Chapter, attested by the Grand Secretary.

Upon the subject of Lodge affiliation he is eminently sound. He says:—

I desire to direct the attention of the Grand Chapter to a matter of paramount importance, and to urge affirmative action thereupon. I have long since, from reflection and extended observation, arrived at the conclusion that membership in the Chapter should depend upon Lodge affiliation. I am satisfied that in every way it would be to the interests of Masonry if this Grand Chapter would, by a formal edict, pronounce against the vicious practice, now somewhat prevalent, of companions withdrawing, from economical or other motives, from the Lodge, and yet retaining membership in the associate bodies. Our regulations require that applicants for degrees in the Chapter must, as a condition precedent, be affiliated Master Masons, but these regulations do not, in my judgment, go far enough in that they do not also

* This information is given for the particular benefit of Comp. TAYLOR, Chairman Committee on Correspondence.

require continued membership in the Chapter shall depend upon continuous membership in the Lodge. The evil to which I allude is growing, and it is time it were checked. I respectfully recommend the matter to you in the hope that you will carefully consider it, and then take such action as seems to me to be demanded.

Any Mason in California who remains unaffiliated for a period of six months, unless he pays to some Lodge an amount equivalent to its monthly dues for the time he remains unaffiliated, becomes, by operation of law, suspended from all the rights and privileges of Masonry, and is excluded from all the higher Masonic bodies. This may appear to be a somewhat rigorous law, but it has proved to be a very effective one, and is the only means by which many of the drones in the Masonic hive can be brought to a sense of their duty.

From the following, we most emphatically dissent:—

During the year I have granted quite a number of special dispensations to subordinate Chapters, to receive and act upon petitions out of time. I hold that the probation of one month required by our present law, is entirely unnecessary. Chapters are as well prepared on the night a petition is presented, to ballot upon Master Mason applicants, as they are one month thereafter, and I see no reason why the probation should be required by this Grand Body. I think it would be better, in every way, to abrogate the law, and allow the ballot to be had, as is done in the Commanderies, on the night the petition is presented. I respectfully recommend these views to your careful consideration.

We are pleased to say that the Grand Chapter did not sustain the Grand High Priest in this opinion.

It is not every Master Mason who is qualified to pass the sacred veils of the tabernacle, and it is important that time should be given for a thorough investigation of the character and qualifications of all who may apply at the outer courts for admittance. Of all that mischievous class of documents yclept "special dispensations," the most mischievous are those which authorize the reception of, and action upon, petitions without reference to a committee of investigation, and such authority should be given only in cases of great emergency, and then only when the applicant for such favor is well known. We note the following

DECISIONS OF THE GRAND HIGH PRIEST.

First Query. "The General Grand Chapter, whose laws we are obligated to stand to and abide by, says we *may* use substitutes; our own Grand Chapter says we *shall not*. Which authority shall we obey?"

Answer. The laws of the Grand Chapter of Iowa are literally to be obeyed. The action of the General Grand Chapter on any matter, according to its organic law, is merely advisory. It has, as I can conceive, no power to establish work regulations for the government of State Grand Chapters. The clause in the O. B. referring to the General Grand Chapter was put there before 1859, at which time that central organization ceased to be a governing body, and subsided into the position of umpire. In my judgment that clause has no business in the O. B. *now*. The law of our Grand Chapter is positive, and needs no interpreter on this question. I should deem it my duty to arrest the jewel of any High Priest of our obedience who might be reported to me as violating the rule under discussion.

Second Query. "We have in our Chapter two companions who pay dues, hold appointed offices and have signed the by-laws. They were borrowed from a neighboring Chapter in order to complete the requisite number of applicants for a dispensation, and have been reported to the Grand Chapter as members; but they were never dimitted from the mother Chapter. We have been advised that there is something wrong about this matter, and wish to know how to dispose of the matter. Is it necessary for them to petition the Chapter for membership, or can we take them in now on a simple deposit of their dimits?"

Answer. The Chapter, recommending your application for a warrant, violated a plain rule of the Grand Chapter, in not seeing to it that *all* the petitioners *were* regularly dimitted. Let them at once dimit from the mother Chapter, and deposit the dimits with you, as Secretary of the Chapter. No further action is necessary. They will then become *de facto*, as they have been *de jure*, members of your Chapter. If they fail at once to do this, the course to be pursued is to strike their names from your roll, making due explanation on the records and returns of the reason why this is done. The Grand Chapter of the State of Iowa does not recognize dual membership.

Third Query. "A Master Mason, in good standing, petitions our Chapter for the degrees. A companion who, as it now appears, was unfavorable to his election,

was present when the petition was received, but made no objection to its reference to a committee of investigation. It was so referred. The companion knew when the petition matured, but was not present at the balloting, although he acknowledged that he could have been present; neither did he make objections to the committee. The petitioner, who is one of our best citizens, was elected. Now the companion claims the right to prevent me from conferring the degrees. Has he the right to do this under any circumstances?"

Answer. It would be rank injustice, and therefore an unmasonic act, for you, as High Priest, to heed objections made under the circumstances detailed. The objector should be required to state his objections fully; and you should judge as to their efficiency. If he fails to do this, you should pay no further attention to him, but proceed to confer the degrees on the candidate, who has been lawfully elected, and that, too, with the full knowledge of the objector.

[A case exactly similar to the foregoing one, with the exception that the candidate had already received the M. M. degree, occurred in another Chapter. A similar decision was given, except that the objector was required to present and prosecute charges, under penalty of having no attention paid to his factious interference.]

Fifth Query. "At our annual meeting D. was elected Treasurer of our Chapter, but failed to put in an appearance on the occasion of the installation of officers. The installing officer decided that his failure to appear for installation at the regular time operated to forfeit his right to a future installation, and that consequently, the old Treasurer held over until a new election. The record was made in accordance with that decision. Doubts as to the justice of this decision we refer to you. 1. Must the officers be installed on a given day or evening? 2. If one or more of the officers elect are absent at the time of installation, can they be installed at a subsequent Convocation? 3. If vacancies continue to exist by reason of such failures on the part of officers elect, how are they to be filled? These questions may seem to be trifling ones to you, but have become seriously important to us."

Answer. Any officer elect who may be absent on the occasion when properly the officer should be installed, does not, by reason of such absence, forfeit his right to the position he has been elected to fill. He *can* and *should* be installed at the first regular convocation at which he subsequently appears. If an officer elect *declines* to be installed, the incumbent whom he was to succeed holds over for the remainder of the current capitial year, unless a special dispensation from the Grand High Priest authorizes a new election to be holden. The officers of a Chapter are they who have been regularly elected, installed, and proclaimed. They occupy their several titles until their successors have also been elected, installed, and proclaimed. Vacancies occurring by reason of temporary absence, removal from the jurisdiction of the Chapter, or by death, are to be filled from night to night by appointment.

Sixth Query. "Three Master Masons, members of a Lodge within the jurisdiction of our Chapter, reside at a point equi-distant from our own, and from two sister Chapters. Does the fact that they are members of a Lodge nearer us than any other establish a jurisdiction in our favor?"

Answer. In your case the rule is, that a Chapter has control over the material in all Lodges which are nearer to it than to other Chapters; Lodge membership, where candidates are equi distant from several Chapters, governs; therefore these Master Masons are your material.

[Decisions have also been several times made during the year to the effect that any Royal Arch Mason in regular standing is eligible to the office of High Priest; that a High Priest, King, or Scribe can not dimit or resign; that a rejected candidate for the degrees can petition at the regular convocation next ensuing after such rejection, etc., etc.]

In the first of these decisions, it appears to us, the Grand High Priest loads up a Columbiad to shoot a mosquito, and in order to settle the inane question at issue, he bangs away at the General Grand Chapter with a vengeance. There is no possibility of an argument in the matter; the General Grand Chapter says a certain thing *may* be done; there is nothing imperative about it; it is left optional with the State Grand Chapters to do or not to do as to them seems best. The Grand Chapter of Iowa says it shall not be done; of course that settles the matter so far as Iowa is concerned, and we can not see the necessity of firing a broadside into the General Grand Chapter on so small a provocation.

In the second decision we concur; our laws require the dimit of every applicant to accompany the petition for a dispensation.

From the third decision we must also dissent; and, as the committee to whom

these decisions were referred express in their report our views exactly, we will let them speak for themselves :—

We recommend the approval and adoption of the decisions made by the *M. E.* Grand High Priest, referred to in his Address, except the answer to the third query. The right of any companion in good standing to object to the conferring of the degrees of Royal Arch Masonry upon a brother Mason, we claim to be inherent, and, whenever made, must be respected. If the objector shall, in a captious spirit, actuated by unworthy motives, for the purpose of seeking revenge for supposed personal injuries upon frivolous pretexts, in this manner seek to frustrate the objects of the Order, and prevent the advancement of a worthy brother, it would be the duty of the Chapter promptly to visit, with condign punishment, the companion who thus grossly offends ; but to us it is clear, that a companion thus objecting can not, in this summary way, be overborne, and his solemn protests disregarded. Upon charges properly preferred, and due trial had, alone should the matter be determined. Any other course to us seems fraught with danger, and an infringement upon the individual rights of the members. For these and other reasons that might be urged, we are of the opinion that any companion has the right to object to the conferring of the capitular degrees, or any of them, upon any one at any time before it is actually done, and that when such objection is made by a companion in good standing, it must be respected.

The following ruling appears to us to be clearly wrong :—

During the progress of the election, Past Grand High Priest PARVIN raised the question as to how many votes a companion representing a Chapter, who is also an officer of the Grand Chapter, and likewise a permanent member of the same, by virtue of the second section of the Constitution (edition 1872, p. 2,) is entitled to cast. When the Grand High Priest decided, that as the representative of his Chapter he casts three votes, as an officer of the Grand Chapter he casts one vote, and as a permanent member of the Grand Chapter one vote, making in this case five in all.

We hold that no member is entitled to more than one vote in his own right; as the representative of his Chapter he would be entitled to three votes; he must then elect whether he will vote as a Grand Officer or a permanent member of the Grand Chapter.

With regard to the third decision we are of the opinion that the right of any member of a Chapter to object to the introduction of a stranger among the workmen is not to be questioned ; even though the objector were present at the balloting and voted in favor of the candidate, should subsequent developments prove him to be unworthy, we hold that the companion has the right to enter his objection, and the High Priest is bound to regard it. Should it be found that such an objection was made maliciously and without cause, charges should be preferred against the offender and he should be tried and punished.

We are at a loss to discover any similarity between this case and the one cited, where the candidate had received one degree ; he had then acquired certain Masonic rights which the Chapter was bound to respect, and he had also become amenable to the Chapter for any wrong doing on his part, and it was proper in such a case that charges should be preferred and a fair trial granted him.

The remaining decisions meet with our approval, whereat we presume Comp. GUILBERT will greatly rejoice.

The Report on Correspondence is again from the pen of the inimitable TAYLOR, whose wit and good humor sparkle and glow through sixty-eight pages of interesting and instructive matter. He reviews the transactions of thirty-one Grand Chapters, and also those of the General Grand Chapter and the "Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales." California gets her full share of notice, or rather the writer does, for almost the entire space devoted to our jurisdiction is occupied with quotations from, and comments upon our last year's report. Well, we ought to feel proud of this, and we do, especially as our report is spoken of in terms too complimentary for us to repeat, but the confounded fellow pokes fun at us, he laughs at our quotations and ridicules our name. Now, Comp. TAYLOR, that isn't fair; we know our name is not a pretty one, nor an aristocratic one, but it is the best

we have got and we are obliged to make the most of it ; and then, if upon the broad footstool we discover a man who is the proprietor of a worse name than ours, havn't we a right to crow, and holler Phœbus or Keno?

As to quotations : we make no more from memory. Our memory always was treacherous on quotations, and when CORSON picks us up on the Bible and TAYLOR on Mether Goose, we think it about time to consult authorities. In speaking of our last report he says : " CORSON must look to his laurels the C. O. D." We are at a loss to understand the meaning of these initials as applied to Comp. CORSON. We knew that he had a multiplicity of titles, but were not aware that he claimed C. O. D. as one of them. Will Comp. TAYLOR please explain. With reference to our quiet hint, that Iowa renewed her allegiance to the General Grand Chapter for the purpose of aiding by the votes of her representatives to demolish it he says :—

"Iowa was represented by Past Grand High Priests, and the General Grand spiked their guns by making them members of that august body ; and besides, the Grand Encampment met a short time afterwards, and *somebody must* hold some office, you know, and an unpopular vote in General Grand Chapter *might* make somebody unpopular in some other Grand Bodies, and so on, and so forth—etcetera—etc., &c., &c.

If we were a Past High Priest of Iowa, we would interview that TAYLOR with a *calorified anser*.

With reference to the amendment to the "Grand Regulations" of New Hampshire, adopted in 1871, prohibiting the issuance of special dispensations to confer the degrees in less time than is provided in said "Grand Regulations," he thus relieves himself :—

Very good, provided the "Grand Regulations" are sound ; but if the Grand Regulations are the same, and things work as they sometimes do with us, we should favor a dispensation. In this case, only, mind, now and then. For what good reason, pray tell us, should a brother whom we have all known for years—perhaps one of the very men who helped to make us a Mason—for what reason should he be kept waiting one month for a committee "to inquire into his character," &c.? Remember, a Chapter has the power to appoint such committee, and they can take six months time, if needs be, so no Chapter or companion need be imposed upon ; and so we ask again, why pass such a law, which we all know works hardship in some cases, when we also know it might as well be avoided. Now, young gentlemen with your calf-bound universal masonic library, come out with your pop-guns. Yes, 'twas I who wrote, "why not do away with this special dispensation business altogether—it does no good, but doeth much harm." "*But remember*,"—the difference 'twixt a man and a mule is—a man sometimes changes his mind, a mule *never*.

The report is one of the very best we have yet examined, (barring the horrible attempt upon our name, which ought to condemn any man to the galleys for life), and we would gladly copy from it *in extenso*, but time and space forbid. He thus closes his notice of us : "Comp. WIGGIN, you're a brick." We reciprocate : Comp. TAYLOR, you're another.

Comp. EDWARD A. GUILBERT was reelected Grand High Priest, and Comp. W. B. LANGRIDGE was reelected Grand Secretary. Address: Muscatine, Iowa.

KANSAS.

The Grand Chapter of Kansas held its eighth Annual Convocation in the city of Fort Scott, commencing on the fourteenth day of October, 1872,—the M. E. D. HILLYER, Grand High Priest, presiding, the R. E. E. T. CARR being Grand Secretary. Fourteen subordinate Chapters were represented at the opening.

The Grand High Priest delivered an excellent Address, from which we extract the following, merely remarking, however, *en passant*, that if Comp. HILLYER, in claiming for Masonry the honor of having done more to make men wise and good, than any other institution, means simply secular institutions, we are prepared to agree with him ; if, however, he means to place Masonry above the divine institution of the church, we take issue with him at once ; and we do not hesitate to say that those who, in their blind zeal enunciate such doctrines, work far greater mischief to Masonry than they can ever hope to repair. He says :—

Whatever of earnestness and untiring perseverance selfishness exerts in the execution of its sordid pursuits, should be surpassed by the Royal Arch Mason in the interests of the Order. Whatever of wisdom and far-seeing intelligence the gifted of our race give to their professional duties, we owe to the Order of Masonry which we represent, to the full extent of our mental abilities.

Selfishness is the besetting sin of humanity, and Masonry is its antidote; and without intending to decry the undoubted merits of the many institutions claiming to instruct and benefit mankind, I think I may confidently claim for Masonry, in its several degrees, the credit and honor of having done more to make man wise and good, and consequently happy, than all other institutions ever organized.

It is, then, the welfare and happiness of humanity, concerning which we consult when we convene in General Grand Chapter, because Masonic prosperity, and human progress and moral improvement are inseparable. Masonry is the secular church of the world; her dogmas are comprehensible to all; and we are her missionaries, commissioned to teach through the eloquence of virtuous conduct.

This is the duty of all Royal Arch Masons, and whoever fails in his sacred mission is unworthy of wages, and recreant to the sublime principles of the Order.

Royal Arch Masons, more than any other of a subordinate degree, are supposed to be, and I think I may say, are, preëminent in morality, in charity, disinterested love for mankind and affectionate conduct to all, and an unquestionable honesty in every relation of life.

If any Companion, then, does not appear in the locality in which he resides and is known, decorated with the halo of Masonic morality, he is false to his obligations and a traitor to the Order. From the petty tricks of political expediency, commercial "smartness," and social pretense, the Royal Arch Mason must appear before our Sacred Altar with clean hands and a pure heart. "To be virtuous, he must not be suspected."

The best interests of humanity was the aim and object of those who raised and sustained the Royal Arch Banners in the years that are past, and their glorious success proves that they were true and faithful. Now the Royal Arch Standard in this jurisdiction is committed to our hands, and if we cannot bring to the sacred trust the high abilities of our predecessors, we at least can equal them in zeal and faithfulness. Those who labor to perfect the living Temple can succeed by no torpid devotion. The road of Masonic life is not strewn with roses; it is rough with the passions, the prejudices, and the weaknesses of life, and the alluring temptations of vice are spread before the Companion at every step; but just in proportion to the unwearying zeal and steadfast truth required to resist and conquer these baser impulses of our nature, is the ennobling influence which the Royal Arch Mason will exert upon those within the sphere of his labors.

Whoever is not willing to sacrifice his personal preferences and individual tastes for the welfare of the Order, should never have been admitted into the Tabernacle. If Royal Arch Masons are content to stand upon the common level of conventional morality, they are wholly deficient in that lofty spirit and laudable ambition which should ever inspire a Companion of the Order. While there is ignorance to be enlightened, suffering to relieve, intolerance to be vanquished, or sorrows to soothe, the Companions of the Order may not stand by idly in listless inaction. The field of Masonic labor before us is as extensive as the vices and weaknesses of man; and the Masonic laborer who works to extirpate these, that wisdom and virtue may grow and flourish uninterruptedly, must bring to his task undoubted moral courage, enlightened wisdom, fraternal charity, and undying zeal. And it is this high standard of moral excellence which gives to Royal Arch Masonry the power and influence for good which it has, and exerts, and will continue to exert, upon society.

It is not through strength of numbers, or even by intellectual ability, that the Order can hope to accomplish its high mission. To these must be joined a determination to act justly, and a spirit of fraternal benevolence embracing the brotherhood of man.

Royal Arch Masonry in this jurisdiction is in a prosperous condition; the growth of the Order during the past year has been such as to create the conviction that worth and personal character have been more regarded than mere numerical strength; and in this vigilant watchfulness of the portals of the Tabernacle lies the safety and hope of the Order. Indeed, it cannot be too earnestly impressed upon the subordinate Chapters, that with only a few, good, wise, and zealous Companions, a Chapter can and will elevate and purify the moral atmosphere of society, encourage the weak and restrain the vicious; while with a numerous membership of doubtful character, their best efforts will be unsuccessful. A Royal Arch Mason, to be true to his obligations and useful to the Order, must be not only wholly blameless, but he must be conspicuous for the practice of those virtues which the good revere and even the depraved respect.

He reports one case of strife and contention among the companions of a subordinate Chapter, and recommends that their charter be revoked unless their difficulties receive a speedy and peaceful solution.

One dispensation to form a new Chapter had been issued, but for some reason the Chapter did not organize. The report of the Grand Treasurer shows a balance on hand of \$504.31.

The substitute question appears to have exercised our companions of Kansas as well as elsewhere ; and after some discussion and a close vote of nine to seven, the following resolution was adopted :—

Resolved, That the indiscriminate use of substitutes, by Chapters in this jurisdiction, is hereby prohibited ; but whenever it shall appear to be necessary for the interest of the Royal Craft that one or more substitutes be used in conferring the Royal Arch Degree, the Chapter shall, through its Secretary, and under the seal of the Chapter, make a statement of all the facts in the case to the Grand High Priest, when, if in his judgment the reasons are sufficient, he shall issue his dispensation for the use of one or more substitutes in that particular case.

The Grand Secretary, Comp. E. T. CARR, again presented an excellent Report on Correspondence, in which the transactions of the General Grand Chapter, and those of thirty-four State Grand Chapters are reviewed in a courteous and interesting manner. In his notice of California, he is pleased to speak in commendatory terms of our last report, for which we tender our thanks.

The table of statistics gives the number of subordinate Chapters as twenty-five, with an aggregate membership of seven hundred and fifty-five.

The *M. E. D.* HILLYER was reelected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E. E.* T. CARR was reelected Grand Secretary. Address—Leavenworth.

KENTUCKY.

The fifty-seventh Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky was held in the city of Louisville, on the twenty-first day of October, 1872,—the *M. E. J. P.* RASCOE, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E. J. M. S.* McCORKLE being Grand Secretary. Seventy-five subordinates were represented at the opening.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is brief. He reports that peace and harmony prevail throughout the jurisdiction. For a jurisdiction comprising within its limits eighty-eight active Chapters, he appears to have enjoyed a remarkably easy time. He says : “No vexed question of jurisprudence has been determined at my hands worthy to be recorded in this connection, and no official interference has been necessary from your presiding officer.”

One dispensation to form a new Chapter was granted by him, and several applications for dispensations to confer degrees out of time were refused, on the ground that he “could see no emergency in the cases presented.” He pays the following tribute to the memory of the venerable Comp. PHILIP SWIGERT, who for half a century had served the Grand Chapter as Grand Secretary :—

Since our last Annual Meeting the angel of death has carved the letters of his commission upon our Order. Companion PHILIP SWIGERT has fallen beneath his stroke, and reposes forever beneath the valley's clod. He departed this life on the 31st of December, 1871, at his residence in the city of Frankfort. He was elected Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky in the year 1822, which office he continued to hold up to the time of his death, with the exception of two years, 1839 and 1840. He was the remaining type of the generation of Masons who had gone down to the silent grave. The Masonic brethren of this State elevated him to the proudest station in their gift, and he reflected honor upon the confidence reposed.

As a Mason he was true and faithful ; wise to counsel, and prompt to execute. Contemplate him in his true light, with undeviating fidelity in the discharge of duty, the blending of mildness with lion-like energy, living a life of unsullied integrity, terminating in the midst of an old age, which was brightened by a conscious performance of duty and a full belief of resting in peace with his Heavenly Father. The memory then of those whose lives were models of virtue, whose deaths were triumphs of piety, whose tombs syllable forth monitions to the living, and whose spirits have passed from the *outer* to the *inner veil* and entered upon the unfading visions of the *Upper Temple*, should be held in veneration. I doubt not that this Grand Chapter will aid in the mournful but grateful duty of perpetuating his memory.

Comp. H. A. M. HENDERSON, from the committee to whom was referred the foregoing portion of the Grand High Priest's Address, gives, in his report, a most inter-

esting history of the life and services of Comp. SWIGERT, both as a citizen and a Mason. We quote the concluding portion :—

Everywhere Companion SWIGERT moved he was a positive force. In the various satellite institutions of the State, or corporations, or Masonry, whether as Senator, Commissioner, Director, President, Chairman, Master, Secretary, or Treasurer, he was a center of motion. He was not one of those persons who are perpetually whirling at the circumference, for he always laid a strong hand upon the axle.

As a Mason he was faithful beyond description. He attended to the duties of Masonry from the subordinate to the Grand Lodge, from the home to the Grand Chapter, from the Entered Apprentice degree to the chivalric Orders of Knighthood. No man in this jurisdiction was more loved by the Craft. Your committee write *con amore*, and what may seem to others extravaganzas is to us a feeble tribute. Would that in golden letters of ever-enduring chronicle we might perpetuate the virtues of a man and Mason, the like of whom are few. The marble shaft will ward his dust, and the hand of affection keep his grave green and flowery, but his noblest monument shall be built of stones quarried from the heart of Masonry, crimson-veined marble whose blocks are indeed eternal. We offer the following resolution :—

Resolved, That this memoir be printed in the proceedings, and that a monumental page in the journal be inscribed to the memory of Companion PHILIP SWIGERT.

Financially our venerable sister appears to be in most excellent condition, as the Grand Treasurer reports the balance in his hauds to be \$1180 63, which, with the invested funds, make the total assets \$12,010 63.

The committee appointed at the last Annual Convocation to devise some means by which uniformity of work might be secured, made a report recommending the appointment of ten District Deputy Grand High Priests, one for each Congressional District, who, after receiving the work from the Grand High Priest, should act as lecturers in their respective districts, and teach the work to the subordinate Chapters, the Chapters requiring their services to pay them the same mileage and per diem as allowed to the members of the Grand Chapter. We think the plan a good one, and if proper men are selected to fill the positions, the good results of the system will soon be made manifest.

The following report and resolution was laid over until the next Annual Convocation, when we hope to see it adopted, and old Kentucky once more in the family circle of Grand Chapters which hold allegiance to the General Grand Body :—

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, in overlooking the proceedings of sister jurisdictions, find a general regret expressed that Kentucky still declines to unite with them in the General Grand Chapter of the United States. We see no reason why we should continue in our isolated condition. By a union with the General Grand Chapter, we will put ourselves into more positive sympathy with our Companions of other States, secure, in the end, perfect uniformity of work throughout the country, and strengthen the social and civil bonds that should unite Companions of the Royal Craft. Our correspondence would then partake of a family character, and prove more satisfactory than formal courtesies extended to mere strangers. We believe the arrangement would enable us to give and receive benefits, and we would certainly be relieved from the charge that we are insulating ourselves from the great family of capitular Masonry in our common country. We therefore submit the following resolution :—

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter of Kentucky resume its relation to the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and that the Grand High Priest, Grand King, and Grand Scribe be instructed to attend the next Annual Session, with credentials furnished under the seal of the Grand Chapter, and instructions to consummate our union with that body.

Comp. H. A. M. HENDERSON again presents the Report on Correspondence. He apologizes for the *feebleness* of the report, on the ground of pressure of other business ; but he manages to get off a very good report, nevertheless. He reviews the transactions of twenty-seven Grand Chapters, but our proceedings did not reach him, which failure is probably explained by the closing paragraph of his report. He says :—

We close our report, for the lack of further material. Many of the Proceedings have failed to reach us. By the death of Grand Secretary SWIGERT, some confusion in the transmission of the Proceedings has ensued, and it is possible that this accounts for the failure to receive the minutes of corresponding Chapters. We have

refused to notice none, and would gladly have reviewed all—but we cannot answer a letter we have not received. With fraternal greetings to our Companions Reporters, we submit our report.

The *M. E.* WILLIAM RYAN was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* JOHN M. S. McCORKLE was elected Grand Secretary. Address: Louisville.

LOUISIANA.

The Grand Chapter of the State of Louisiana held its twenty-fifth Annual Convocation in the city of New Orleans, commencing on the thirteenth day of February, 1872, the *M. E.* MICHEL ELOI GIRARD, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* J. C. BATCHELOR being Grand Secretary. Sixteen chartered Chapters and three under dispensation were represented.

The Grand High Priest commences an interesting Address with the following cheering announcement:—

I feel happy to be able to report to you, that we have cause to rejoice at the continued prosperity of Royal Arch Masonry throughout our jurisdiction; no discordant sounds are heard, no grievances reported, and your Committee on Appeals and Grievances have nothing to act upon; the utmost good-will pervades every part of our Tabernacle, and we would be remiss in our duty should we fail to return thanks to the Great Giver of all good gifts and graces for the peace and harmony which gladden our heart.

We congratulate our companions upon this happy state of affairs; may peace and prosperity long reign within their borders. He alludes to the change which has taken place at Rome, and rather crows over His Infallible Highness in his loss of power to do evil. He says;—

Important events have marked the past year. Abroad, we find that the narrow-minded and intolerant spirit who ruled over a portion of fair Italy has been shorn of his temporal power. Henceforth our Italian brethren may not be cursed with the persecutions and bitter trials to which many have been subjected in the name of Religion. Rome, the Eternal City, is now the capital of Masonry in Italy.

He briefly reviews the acts of the General Grand Chapter, all which appear to have met his hearty concurrence, and he gives our Baltimore companions a first rate notice as follows:—

In closing this brief report of some of the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter, I cannot refrain from mentioning the truly fraternal welcome which all met at the hands of our companions at Baltimore. The recollection of the sumptuous feasts and divers amusements prepared for the occasion will long be cherished by all who were fortunate enough to participate in them.

He announces that he has granted three dispensations to form new Chapters, and declares that he feels "some satisfaction at being able to report that no other kind of dispensation has been granted." We participate in the satisfaction. The granting of special dispensations to do all sorts of things out of the beaten Masonic track is calculated to work great evil to the Craft; and when we read the address of a Grand High Priest, and find there reported a long list of special dispensations, we immediately look forward to see what the Committee on Grievances have to report.

Upon the question of dimission and non-affiliation he discourses as follows:—

It certainly is the spirit of our laws that there should be no drones in our midst, and still I fear the different bodies are too willing to allow companions to discontinue their membership. Often the applicant for a dimit does not intend to affiliate with any other chapter, and he only applies for a dimit to withdraw, as he thinks perhaps, not dishonorably, from the Order. That is eminently wrong. It is not in accordance with the spirit of the ancient charge. "Every brother ought to belong to one lodge and be subject to its By-Laws and General Regulations." (and I think every companion ought to belong to one Chapter, and be subject to its By-Laws and General Regulations.) Sometimes, too, after having been dimitted, his application for affiliation is refused, and thus he may be unwittingly made to remain a non-affiliate.

Whilst we have legislated against non-affiliation and endeavored to recall in to membership those who were out, we should have directed our efforts to retain those who are members by not allowing any companion to lose his membership in his Chapter until he has been accepted a member in another. By enacting a By-Law that a dimit will not have the effect of dissolving membership until the dimitted

companion has been accepted a member by some other Chapter, or that one dimitted, who has not applied for membership in some regular Chapter, for twelve months, should be considered as suspended, and reported as such, non-affiliation would be stopped at once, and it is only by arresting the evil that we may hope to ever see the last of craftsmen lounging about without asking or receiving wages. It were much better for the craft that those who have failed to appreciate the sublimity of the teachings of our Order, and have become desirous of being relieved of the noble duties of a Mason, should be also deprived of the rights of one. They should be cut off as dead branches and stand as suspended, and thus deprived of all rights, even Masonic communication. Without some penalty affixed to continued non-affiliation, it must increase and become a sore evil, not to be easily cured.

If these views are correct, the practice of striking from the roll for non-payment of dues, must be wrong in principle. It may and does afford the Chapter some relief, as it has no contribution to make to the Grand Chapter for the delinquent member; but it also has the bad effect of increasing the number of loungers, without any adequate good result. The member stricken from the roll remains in good standing, since he is not suspended; he may not even have been reprimanded, and is, therefore, still entitled to all the rights of a Royal Arch Mason without having to bear any of the burdens. There is another subject which deserves some attention. A Royal Arch Mason, who is suspended or expelled by the lodge of which he is a member, is thereby considered as suspended or expelled from the Chapter, and there should be some mode provided for notifying the several Chapters of that suspension or expulsion by the lodge. Some official notice of it should be given to the Chapter by a certificate issued by the Secretary of the lodge, and the information could then be transmitted by the Secretary of the Chapter to the Grand Secretary, who would report it in his monthly reports to the constituent Chapters, and thus the Royal Arch Craft generally would be advised of it.

The question of non-affiliation is a vexatious one, and we agree with Comp. GIRARD that some plan should be devised by which the evil may be remedied. We believe that any Royal Arch Mason who neglects or refuses to affiliate with some Chapter for a period of twelve months, should be declared suspended from all the rights and privileges of Royal Arch Masonry. We know of no other remedy which would prove effectual. The rule may appear to be a harsh one, yet we believe in the principle that he who contributes nothing to the general good of the body should have no share in the general benefits to be derived from it.

As to the question of striking from the roll for non-payment of dues, we got over that absurdity in California a long time ago. Our law is, when a member is six months in arrears, he must be notified of that fact by the Secretary, and if at the stated meeting thereafter his dues are not paid, or some sufficient reason given for their non-payment, he is suspended, and remains so until his dues are paid, unless the Chapter shall deem it proper to remit them. We endorse the proposition that when a member is suspended by a Lodge, some means should be provided by which the Chapter may be notified, otherwise we might unwittingly hold Masonic intercourse with a suspended or expelled Mason, and the plan suggested by Comp. GIRARD appears to us to be the only feasible one.

He recommends that a committee on work be appointed, whose duty it shall be, when they find the work themselves, to report it to the Grand Chapter, to be finally acted upon, and, if approved, to be taught and disseminated by the Grand Lecturer.

The Deputy Grand High Priest, Comp. JOSEPH P. HORNER, submitted a report of his official acts during the year. He had issued one dispensation to form a new Chapter, and had attended the Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter at Baltimore, where he doubtless enjoyed the hospitality of our companions of that city.

We observe that our Louisiana companions have one important adjunct to prosperity and harmony, viz., a comfortable balance in the treasury, \$1797 92 being reported as the amount on hand and all expenses paid.

The Committee on Grievances are growing rusty for want of use and might as well be discontinued; they make the customary report, nothing to report upon. Matters generally run on about right when this committee, year after year, report nothing to

do. The Grand Chapter joined with the Grand Lodge in the ceremonies of laying the corner-stone of the New Masonic Temple, which we hope may soon be successfully completed.

A resolution was adopted authorizing the Grand High Priest to procure a suitable jewel for the Deputy Grand High Priest, and a jewel and apron for the Grand Lecturer.

The Report on Correspondence is as usual by Comp. JOSEPH P. HORNER, in which he reviews the transactions of thirty Grand Chapters, and of the General Grand Chapter at its last Annual Convocation.

California receives courteous notice at his hands ; he coincides in our views, that the law of the Grand Lodge shall govern in all cases where they do not conflict with those of the Grand Chapter, and upon this subject he says :—

This meets our views, and we would rejoice to see the example followed everywhere ; the general regulations of the Grand Lodges are made for the government and direction of bodies very similar in their character and organizations to our Chapters, and require little, if any change to adapt them to our use, and by adopting them we make the law more simple and more compact. It is a mistake to have too much law, and if that governing the fundamental bodies of the craft is well understood, it is easily applicable to all other organizations claiming to be of a Masonic character, and recognizing the possession of the blue degrees as a necessary qualification for admission to membership. The best code of By-Laws that we ever saw for a subordinate Masonic Body, would occupy scarcely a third of this page, and long use has not suggested any addition to them.

The report is an excellent one and we would gladly copy many good things from it but time and space forbid.

The *M. E.* MICHEL ELOI GIRARD was reelected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* J. C. BATCHELOR was reelected Grand Secretary. Address : New Orleans.

MAINE.

The Grand Chapter of Maine was convened in the city of Portland on the seventh day of May, 1872,—the *M. E.* STEPHEN J. YOUNG, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* IRA BERRY being Grand Secretary. Thirty-four subordinate Chapters, being all the chartered Chapters borne upon the registry, were represented.

The Address of the Grand High Priest treats solely of matters of local interest. He reports the Chapters throughout the jurisdiction as generally harmonious and prosperous, though it appears there are some exceptions to the rule. He announces the demise of Past Grand High Priest A. B. THOMPSON, and pays a fitting tribute to his memory.

We note the following decision, in which we concur : “An officer, legally elected, presents himself for installation, when a companion objects to his installation on account of his bad moral character. Can he be installed? *Ans.*—He can not be installed until the charges are investigated and refuted. The objection of one companion, if found valid, is sufficient to prevent the installation of any officer of a Chapter.”

The Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, and Grand Scribe each submitted a report of his official acts, confined principally to visits to, and a general supervision of, the several Chapters assigned them for inspection.

The Grand Treasurer reports the amount in the Charity Fund of the Grand Chapter to be \$3741 84, while a balance of \$488 97 remains in the General Fund after the year's expenses have been paid.

The Grand Secretary in his report states that when he was first elected, eighteen years ago, there were only eight Chapters in existence in that jurisdiction, but now they number thirty-five. He reports, also, that some of the documents belonging to the Grand Chapter were lost in the great fire of 1866, and some got mixed in removing them ; but he hopes to be able to arrange them so they may know what has been saved and where to find it.

The amendment to the Constitution, submitted at the last Annual Convocation, making District Deputy Grand High Priests members of the Grand Chapter, was adopted. A wise measure.

An amendment abolishing mileage was adopted, and authority was given the Grand Treasurer, in case the receipts should not be sufficient to meet the current expenses, to borrow such amount as he might deem necessary.

The Report of the Committee on Returns shows the number of exaltations to have been 278; number of members, 3319: an increase of 250 from last year.

The following amendment to the Constitution was proposed and referred: "Every Mason receiving the Royal Arch degree in a subordinate Chapter, shall thereby become a member of that Chapter, and the Secretary shall immediately register his name as a member." It appears to us that such an amendment might be rather inconvenient at times, if a sister Chapter should ask to have the Royal Arch degree conferred upon one of her candidates as a matter of convenience; for instance, the request could not be granted, because the fact of conferring the Royal Arch degree upon him would deprive the Chapter making the request of a member which they might strongly desire to retain. The resolution adopted in 1869, prohibiting the use of substitutes, was repealed.

Comp. DRUMMOND again presents the Report on Correspondence, which he prefaces as follows:—

The unexpected action of the General Grand Chapter, at Baltimore, in relation to the Chairman of your committee, made it a question with him whether he could with propriety perform the duties devolved upon him at your last Annual Convocation. But as he undertook to perform those duties before he was called to official position at Baltimore, he has concluded to prepare *this* report, as usual. But let it be understood, that the views herein expressed are the *personal* views of the Chairman of your committee, and not the *official* views of the General Grand High Priest; with this understanding, he proposes to discuss questions as freely as if he sustained no official relations to the Royal Craft.

Dropping now the third person singular, and adopting the conventional first person plural, we give herewith the list of proceedings which should come to hand for review in this report, though at this time all have not been received.

He reviews, in his usual thorough manner, the transactions of thirty-eight Grand Chapters, and those of the General Grand Chapter for 1871.

The proceedings of our Grand Chapter failed to reach him in time, and thus we missed the good word we know he had in store for us.

The amendment making Past Grand High Priests permanent members of the General Grand Chapter was adopted by a vote of 109 to 7. The adoption of this amendment was a death blow to the proposition to dissolve the body, as it now has a permanent membership which will support and maintain it. Thirty Past Grand High Priests reported at once, and their names were entered on the roll. The body then comprised an amount of ability and Masonic knowledge rarely met with in an assembly of any character. There were Pike, English, and Barber of Arkansas, Lockwood of Connecticut, Mackey of District of Columbia, Hacker and Hazelrigg of Indiana, Parvin of Iowa, Fellows of Louisiana, Collins of Missouri, Corson of New Jersey, Barnum, Austin, and Simons of New York, Bruns of South Carolina, and many others who have a national reputation.

Charters were granted for one Chapter in Colorado, one in Shanghai, China, two in Idaho, one in Wyoming, one in Nevada, and two in Washington, and the Chapter at Honolulu was revived.

In his report on Alabama, he thus exhaustively replies to Comp. PILLAN's assertion that the General Grand Chapter derived its powers from the State Grand Chapters. Alluding to Comp. PILLAN's report of last year, he says:—

He discusses the General Grand Chapter, but does not reply to our questions of last year. He starts by asking "But whence did the General Grand Chapter derive its powers?" and answers it as follows: "From those certainly who constituted it—the State Grand Chapters." He founds his remaining argument upon this. It is evident that he is *entirely in error*, and we ask him to examine the compendium of the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter. He will find that, as we have been telling him, he *reverses the facts*. *The General Grand Chapter was not created by State Grand Chapters, but it antedates every one of them which are its constituents, and every one of them was created by its authority and under its Constitution.*

Let us examine its history briefly. Delegates from the subordinate Chapters of several States met January 24, 1798, and formed a Grand Chapter for the Northern States. It was provided in its Constitution that there should be in each of the States within its jurisdiction, a *Deputy* Grand Chapter, consisting of a *Deputy* Grand High Priest, King, Scribe, &c., who should be the Representatives of their Deputy Grand Chapter in the Grand Chapter. Accordingly, "agreeably to the sixth article of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of the Northern States of America" the representatives of the Chapters in New York met March 14, 1798, and organized the *Deputy* Grand Chapter of New York. In the same manner, on the twelfth of June, 1798, the *Deputy* Grand Chapter of Massachusetts was organized; the same thing was done in Rhode Island in March, 1797, and in Connecticut May 17, 1798. There were no other Grand Chapters in the country, save one in Pennsylvania appended to, and under the control of the Grand Lodge. It has, however, recently been discovered that one had been formed in Maryland, but how, it is not known, as none of the records have been found.

On Jan. 9, 1799, the Grand Chapter of the Northern States met, having under it the four *Deputy* Grand Chapters above named, being all there then were in the country. It then amended its Constitution, taking the name of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter for the Northern States, and provided that the Deputy Grand Chapters should in future be styled "State Grand Chapters." And they were granted power to issue warrants for new Chapters in their several jurisdictions, except that (until Grand Chapters should be formed therein) Vermont was placed under the jurisdiction of New York, and New Hampshire under that of Massachusetts. Subordinate Chapters when constituted were required to conform, "in all their doings, to the Constitution of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter." In 1804, the Grand Chapter of Vermont was formed under this authority.

In 1806, the General Grand Chapter met again, all the Grand Chapters then existing (except the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, which had not then become independent, but was still governed by the Grand Lodge) being represented, and amended its Constitution by changing its name to the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and giving to State Grand Chapters the power to issue warrants for new Chapters in their several jurisdictions, and reserving to itself the sole power to issue them for Chapters in any State in which there was not a Grand Chapter. It also provided that when three Chapters had been formed in any State under that Constitution, a Grand Chapter might be formed therein with the approbation of one of the first four General Grand Officers, in one year after the establishment of the junior Chapter in the State. Two dispensations (one for South Carolina and one for Georgia) having been issued by the General Grand Officers, they were confirmed by the General Grand Chapter.

It was further provided that every officer on his installation, and every candidate on his admission, should take the following obligation: "I, A. B., do promise and swear, that I will support and maintain the General Grand Royal Arch Constitution."

It next met in 1816. The Grand Chapter of Maryland had been re-organized and was admitted under the authority of the General Grand Chapter; the Grand Chapter of Virginia had been formed by Chapters appendant to Lodges, and has remained independent ever since; and the Grand Chapter of South Carolina had been formed under its authority by Chapters chartered by it.

It next met in 1819. The Grand Chapters of Kentucky, Ohio, and New Hampshire had then been formed under its authority and were admitted to representation.

It next met in 1826. The Grand Chapters of Maine, Georgia, North Carolina, Alabama, Tennessee, New Jersey, and the District of Columbia had been formed in accordance with its constitution and under its authority, and, most of them, by Chapters chartered directly by it. No other Grand Chapter was formed, except as hereinafter stated, till 1845; and in the mean time the Grand Chapters of Vermont, New Jersey, District of Columbia, North Carolina, and Georgia had succumbed to the anti-masonic storm, and only one (Georgia in 1841) had been re-organized. But the General Grand Chapter had held its regular convocations.

Now, Comp. PILLANS, does not this history completely dispose of your argument, that the State Grand Chapters are the *parents* of the General Grand Chapter?

But we are not yet done with you. We have given the general history, and we now propose to make an application to Alabama in particular. We have stated that the Grand Chapter of Alabama was formed in 1823. An attempt was made to do so. Four Chapters had been chartered by the *General Grand High Priest*. A meeting was called for May 19, 1823, but there was a disagreement as to the time and place, and only two Chapters were represented: on the 21st, no delegate from the other two had arrived, but a Constitution was adopted, and on the next day a Grand Chapter was organized: whether more than two Chapters were then represented does not appear: but as the junior Chapter was not a year old, the General Grand Chapter, in 1826, decided that the action was void, and the Grand Chapter could not be recognized. It, however, confirmed the charters which had been issued by that

Grand Chapter, authorized and recommended the four Chapters created by itself to form a Grand Chapter at an early day. Accordingly the delegates from those four Chapters met June 2, 1827, and formed a Grand Chapter, which met regularly till 1830, but then suspended. On Dec. 8, 1837, the representatives of the Chapters then working in Alabama met and adopted the following resolution:—

“Resolved, That the representatives of the several Chapters, now present, proceed to form a Grand Royal Arch Chapter according to the provisions of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, the former Grand Chapter of this State having failed to hold its constitutional meetings for the last seven years.”

And in accordance therewith organized the Grand Chapter.

For more than thirty years every officer at his installation, and every candidate at his admission, in Alabama, took a solemn obligation to support and maintain the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, as the supreme governing body in the United States: the Constitution of the Grand Chapter declared that it was under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, and adopted the Constitution of the latter as part of itself. In December, 1860, a revised constitution containing the same provision was reported, received, and, in accordance with the requirements in amending the Constitution, entered on the minutes, published with the proceedings, and laid over to the next Convocation for action, when it purports to have been unanimously adopted. But at that same Convocation (1861) the following resolution was adopted with but one dissenting vote:—

“Resolved, That the connection subsisting between the Grand Chapter of Alabama and the General Grand Chapter of the United States be and the same is hereby dissolved.”

This seems to be an attempt to amend the Constitution by simple resolution: but it may be that the revised Constitution was amended accordingly and unanimously adopted, *without lying over one year, as the Constitution itself required*. If we look to the validity of the proceedings, either horn of the dilemma would seem to be fatal to them. But we do not mention this to make a point of it. We desire to ask Comp. PILLANS if this action was consistent with the obligations which he and his associates have many times taken in relation to the General Grand Chapter. It was taken in dark and troublous times; but now it can be examined in the light of history and in the absence of the terrible excitement attending its adoption. Can it be sustained? If not, we know our Alabama companions too well to argue that if it cannot be on the score of duty, considerations of policy and usefulness do not have a feather's weight.

We call upon our companion to point out, if he can, a single error in our historical statement; and if he cannot, to answer the question squarely, whether the General Grand Chapter is not the parent of the Grand Chapters; and if it is, whether the jurisdiction it has over them can be thrown off by them, without its consent; and whether we can thus be absolved from the obligations we have voluntarily taken to support it.

We have devoted this space to this question to dispose of it once for all, and because Comp. PILLANS invited this discussion by taking issue with us in a former report, and maintaining that the State Grand Chapters constituted the General Grand Chapter, as he does in the report now under review.

He briefly alludes to certain unjust and utterly uncalled for charges made against him by Comp. MASON, of the District of Columbia, strips from them the flimsy veil of sophistry with which they are enveloped, and exhibits them in all their naked deformity as simply *whoppers*; but as Comp. MASON has retired from the field reportorial, and as we hope no other reporter will ever strive to emulate his peculiar style, we gladly drop the subject.

In his review of Ohio, Comp. DRUMMOND gives us his ideas of physical qualifications, which agree entirely with our own opinion as expressed in our report of last year. He says:—

The following resolution, reported by Comp. E. T. CARSON, from the Committee on Jurisprudence, was adopted:—

“Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand Chapter, a Master Mason who has become maimed in person, is not thereby absolutely physically disqualified for receiving the degrees conferred in a Royal Arch Chapter; but the degree of injury or maiming that shall constitute physical disqualification for the receiving of degrees shall be left, as the moral and other necessary qualifications are, with the several subordinate Chapters.”

We dissent from this. The allegation that the determination of all the necessary qualifications of a candidate is left to Chapters, without restraint, is not true. If a

Master Mason becomes an atheist, a Chapter which should knowingly receive him, would lose its charter; and hence we say that the Grand Chapter may lay down and should lay down a rule for its subordinates as to physical qualifications. If it says that no Chapter shall admit a candidate who cannot receive and give all the instruction necessary to prove one to be a Royal Arch Mason, it transcends in no degree its powers, and prescribes a reasonable limit to the discretion of the subordinates.

He gives the following history of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England, a body which has been recognized by some of the Grand Chapters of the United States, and which recognition may yet lead to some unpleasant complications:—

¶From time immemorial the Mark degree has been worked in England. At the union of the two craft Grand Lodges in 1813, the Mark degree was excluded from the system then adopted. But it continued to be worked extensively, the Lodges being held under immemorial constitution derived from the old Athol York Grand Lodge. But there was no governing body in the country. The Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter ignored it. It was a necessary qualification to the Royal Arch in America. Much confusion naturally arose. An effort was made in 1855 to obtain its recognition, as a separate degree from the Grand Lodge of England, but it failed.

Thereupon, certain brethren applied to the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland for charters, under the authority of which they founded Lodges in England. The "time immemorial" Lodges did not approve of this, and in June, 1856, three of them united and formed a Grand Mark Lodge for England. This movement caused the warm expression of a desire for a general union of all the Mark Masters in England under one head, and a meeting was held May 30, 1857, of representatives from all existing Mark Lodges in England, wherever they could be found. In 1858, the Lodges holding under the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland gave in their adhesion. Ten "time immemorial" Lodges and seven Scottish Lodges, acknowledge the supremacy of the new Grand Lodge.

It is understood that now every Lodge or body conferring the degree of Mark Master in England holds under its authority. It has been recognized by the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, which had granted their charters to seven of its constituents.

Whether the original organization of this Grand Lodge by only three Lodges, when there were at least five times that number in existence in England, was Masonically regular, so that its exclusive authority in that country would have been sustained, has now become of no consequence, inasmuch as all the Lodges have voluntarily given in their adhesion to it. We are clearly of opinion that it is the legitimate Supreme Masonic authority over the Mark degree in England, and that all Mark Master Masons made in England under its authority, or recognized by it as regular, are entitled to recognition as such everywhere.

Some Grand Chapters have exchanged Representatives with it, but we are not prepared to advise this Grand Chapter to do so. Recognition does not necessarily imply exchange of Representatives. This Grand Chapter recognizes the Grand Lodge of Maine as the supreme Masonic authority over Craft Masonry in this jurisdiction, and the Grand Lodges of the other States as supreme in the same manner in their respective jurisdictions; but an exchange of Representatives would be universally deemed absurd. The case is not absolutely parallel, it is true, because the Grand Lodges do not recognize the Grand Chapters; but the difference in grade seems to us a sufficient reason for not exchanging Representatives. However, if, upon further consideration, it is deemed proper to exchange Representatives, it may be done, there being no necessity for finally deciding that question at the present time.

We regret to see that it is the intention of Comp. DRUMMOND to lay down the reportorial quill and retire from the field of correspondence. His reports have been most valuable additions to Masonic literature, and his views are generally acknowledged to be sound and correct. We shall miss him sadly from the ranks of the pen and ink brigade, and we *almost* wish he hadn't been elected General Grand High Priest, that we might still have retained the services of a correspondent whose ability and learning have so greatly benefited the Craft, and whose genial courtesy and kindness have won for him universal esteem and respect.

The M.: E.: JOHN W. BALLOU was elected Grand High Priest, and the R.: E.: IRA BERRY was reelected Grand Secretary. Address: Portland.

MARYLAND.

The Grand Chapter of Maryland assembled in Annual Convocation in the city of Baltimore, on the eleventh day of November, 1872,—the *M. E.*: GEO. L. McCABAN, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.*: WILLIAM A. WENTZ being Grand Secretary.

Ten subordinate Chapters were represented at the opening. The Grand High Priest delivered an interesting Address. He alludes feelingly to the decease of three companions who had held high positions in the Grand Chapter, and who were "deservedly honored and esteemed," alludes apologetically to his inability to visit the subordinate Chapters so often or extensively as he had designed, and urges the adoption of more liberal measures to secure a uniformity of work.

He had granted two dispensations to form new Chapters; also two dispensations for special purposes.

We note the following decisions:—

1. A Chapter may confer degrees by request of a Chapter of another jurisdiction, and the companion would be a member of the Chapter for whom the degrees were conferred.

2. A companion must state his objections to the granting of a dimit, otherwise it can be granted.

3. A member of a Mark Lodge in another jurisdiction must be qualified as to residence before petitioning for the remainder of the degrees. If not able to prove himself a Mark Master, he must petition for the latter also.

The above would also apply to a brother who had been elected to receive all the degrees in a Chapter in another jurisdiction, and had only received the Mark Degree, provided in addition that the consent of said Chapter be first obtained, if practicable.

4. A Royal Arch Mason in good standing, and a *bona fide* resident of the place where a Chapter is proposed to be located, may be one of the petitioners for a dispensation, and be a member of a Chapter not under this jurisdiction.

5. Companions "dismissed for non-payment of dues," can only be reinstated by regular petition and ballot.

6. A Chapter must not be closed for the purpose of working in subordinate degrees, but called off—afterwards resume labor and close.

7. Objections to a brother advancing further, after having received one or more degrees, should be stated to the Chapter for its decision.

8. The High Priest has the right to call off his Chapter at any time during a convocation, for consultation.

9. Petitions for the degrees can only be received and referred to committees at a stated convocation, and must lie over to the next stated convocation before balloting.

10. Where a Chapter adds formal expulsion to expulsion by a Lodge, and the Lodge reinstates, a regular petition and ballot is required to reinstate in the Chapter.

11. A Chapter cannot elect any one as High Priest, who has not previously served as King or Scribe.

12. Chapters U. D. pay exaltation and member's fees to the Grand Chapter for all companions exalted therein.

13. It has recently come to my knowledge that a Chapter donated two companions, after exaltation, ten dollars each, the implied purpose being to reduce the fee to twenty dollars; an evasion of this character is equivalent to a violation of the Constitution.

We concur in the foregoing decisions, excepting the fourth, fifth, and eleventh, which would not be good law in this jurisdiction.

We are pleased to note that the Grand High Priest recommended the surrender of jurisdiction over the degrees of Royal and Select Master, and the establishment of regular Councils of those degrees. He says:—

Maryland has ever maintained that the Council degrees should be under the control of the Chapters, and be conferred before the Royal Arch, but we find at the present time but three other Grand Chapters who think alike with us; the remainder all have regularly organized Grand Councils, which exercise jurisdiction over them, and under whose fostering care their usefulness and value are undoubtedly greatly enhanced.

In order then to aid in the perfection of the "American system," and to place ourselves in unison with the great majority of Grand Jurisdictions of our country, I urge upon the Grand Chapter to forbid her subordinates conferring those degrees, and let us as Select and Royal Masters proceed to organize subordinate Councils,

and, at as early a date as possible, a Grand Council. No change will be required in our Chapter work, as the committee on its revision so arranged it in anticipation as to preclude any such necessity.

The committee, to whom the Address of the Grand High Priest was referred, concurred in his ideas, and submitted the following resolution, which was adopted:—

Resolved, That all subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction are prohibited from conferring any other degrees than those of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch.

Comp. HERMON L. EMMONS, Jr., gives us, as usual, a first-rate Report on Correspondence, in which he presents an abstract of the proceedings of thirty-seven Grand Chapters, California, for 1872, receiving fraternal notice. He quotes liberally from the Address of Past Grand High Priest ENGLISH, and from our report of last year. He quotes Sec. 6 of our Constitution, and is evidently inclined to dissent therefrom, as he says:—

The payment of dues is a subject demanding careful consideration. If the degrees, fees, and other sources of revenue are sufficient to meet the necessary expenses of a Chapter, it is a doubtful question whether membership dues should be required. They certainly should be fixed at the lowest sum requisite to meet current expenses after all other revenues have been applied to their liquidation. If a member is delinquent in payment of dues, he should be notified thereof. If, after a reasonable time has elapsed, his dues remain unpaid, he should be summoned to show cause why he has not obeyed the by-laws imposing them. If upon due investigation it appears the member is unable to pay them, they should be remitted.

If able but he refuses or persistently neglects to pay them, he thereby doubly violates his obligations to the Royal Craft: First, by disobeying the by-law; and second, by wronging his companions in compelling them to bear his pecuniary obligations in addition to their own, and he should be indefinitely suspended or expelled, and only be reinstated through the ballot box.

We can assure Comp. EMMONS that the effect of that provision of our Constitution has been most salutary, both in Lodge and Chapter.

There is a certain class in every community, Masonic or otherwise, who can only be brought to a realizing sense of their duty to their fellow men by a strict administration of law and a wholesome dread of its penalties. We sometimes hear Masons complain that the Order is degenerating into an institution of dollars and cents; dollars and cents indeed! What but dollars and cents clothes the naked and feeds the hungry? What but dollars and cents furnishes the destitute widow and helpless orphan with home and shelter and the comforts of life? What but dollars and cents buries the dead, and furnishes aid and comfort to the sick and suffering? Those who complain that Masonry is an institution of dollars and cents, in nine cases out of ten, are those who do not pay their dues, or, if they do, pay them grudgingly and tardily; and it is this class of "dollars and cents" Masons that our law is intended to reach. The good and true Mason needs no incentive to pay his dues; he understands his obligations to his Lodge or Chapter, and he cheerfully discharges them, or if misfortune befalls him and he cannot pay, he has only to make the fact known and he is excused.

The true Mason joins the Order that he may benefit others, not with the hope or expectation of benefits that may accrue to himself. We have frequently noticed that these dollar and cent Masons—while in prosperity ignoring their obligations to the Order, contributing nothing to its charities and bearing no part of its burdens—when adversity overtakes them, and the need of a friendly sustaining hand is felt, are the first to rush forward and present their claims as Masons, and are most clamorous for sympathy and aid. It causes too much trouble and expense to prefer charges against these delinquents and have them tried individually, and punished for the non-payment of their dues; and to avoid that trouble, the section of our Constitution referred to by Comp. EMMONS, declares the non-payment of dues a Masonic crime, and awards its punishment.

When notified by the Secretary that he is six months in arrears, a companion knows that unless his dues are paid on or before the next stated meeting, or some

satisfactory reason be given for their non-payment, he will be suspended ; and if he is unable to pay, he has only to say so, or notify the Chapter in writing of his inability, and further time will be given him, or his dues remitted, as the circumstances of the case seem to require.

Comp. EMMONS rather has the best of us on the figuring up of the membership of that jurisdiction ; we have gone back for that sum total and found it, and we take it all back, and are glad we didn't say anything.

In commenting upon our remarks upon the right of an officer to resign, he says :

The right of an installed officer to resign is questionable. If a vacancy occurs in consequence of death, removal, or other permanent disability, the vacancy can be officially declared and filled by special election ordered by dispensation, except in the case of the first three officers, where the rule should be as follows : If the vacancy occurs in the office of High Priest, it is the right of the King to preside during the unexpired term, and in case the positions of High Priest and King are vacant, it is the right of the Scribe to preside until the next regular election of officers.

We are still of the opinion that, under certain circumstances, an installed officer not only has the right, but it is his duty to resign. Where there is no specific law governing a case, we believe the law of common sense should prevail, and that would dictate that, when a man assumes a position, the duties of which he cannot perform, the sooner he retires and makes way for some one who can, the better for all concerned.

In relation to our remarks upon the Order of High Priesthood, he says :—

In Maryland the High Priest's degree is a prerequisite to installation, and the candidate must pass the ordeal of the ballot-box. The question has been more than once raised in the Grand Chapter by a subordinate feeling aggrieved at the action of the Council of High Priests ; but the course taken by the latter has always been sustained practically, although the Grand Chapter has never claimed jurisdiction over the Council.

We have seen that Maryland has got rid of one old foggy idea relative to the Council degrees : we have strong hopes that she may yet see the error of her ways in relation to the Order of High Priesthood.

Comp. EMMONS agrees with us upon the question of physical qualification, as most sensible men do. There are twelve chartered Chapters and two under dispensation in this jurisdiction, with an aggregate membership—which we found figured up—of 1207. Number exalted during the year, 418 ; increase of membership over last year, 73.

The *M. E.* GEORGE L. McCAHAN was reelected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* WILLIAM A. WENTZ was reelected Grand Secretary. Address : Baltimore.

MASSACHUSETTS.

The pamphlet containing the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts for 1871, is a very handsome one of one hundred and ninety-eight pages, printed on excellent paper, and its typographical execution shows the master workman. In it are recorded the transactions had at ten Special, three Quarterly, and one Annual Convocation. The ten Special affairs being for the purpose of constituting Chapters, installing officers, &c.

The first Quarterly Convocation was held in the city of Boston on the seventh day of March, 1871, all the Grand Officers being present, and thirty-two subordinate Chapters were represented.

The *M. E.* HENRY CHICKERING, Grand High Priest, delivered a business-like Address, confined principally to matters of local interest. We extract the following as illustrating the difference in the method of procedure in the formation of new Chapters between Massachusetts and California :—

I wish to call your attention to the subject of dimitts for persons to whom charters for new Chapters are issued. There has been too much neglect upon this subject. I am convinced that the name of no companion, a member of an existing Chapter, should be inserted in a charter till he presents a dimit from his Chapter ; otherwise

a companion largely in arrears for dues, or one even under suspension, might be constituted into a new Chapter. If a companion is not an affiliated Royal Arch Mason, he should be required to bring a certificate from the Chapter in which he received his degrees, or from other reliable source, certifying this fact and his standing. I recommend that hereafter this be required.

In this jurisdiction a petition for a dispensation must be accompanied by the dimits of all the petitioners from the Chapters of which they last were members, also by a certificate from the Grand Lecturer declaring that the companion proposed for High Priest in said petition is qualified to confer all the degrees of Royal Arch Masonry and deliver the lectures thereunto appertaining. The petition must also be accompanied by a recommendation from the chartered Chapter nearest the location of the proposed new one, certifying to the good standing of each of the petitioners, and that a suitable place of meeting has been provided. Upon this showing a dispensation is granted, which terminates upon the first day of the month in which the next succeeding Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter is holden, when the dispensation, together with all the books and records of the new Chapter, must be returned to the Grand Secretary, and if the work passes the inspection of the Committee on Charters a warrant is issued. This course prevents all subsequent cavil regarding membership, prevents the organization of Chapters where there is no necessity for them except to hoist some ambitious companion into office, insures competency where it is most needed, in the presiding officer, and starts the new Chapter on a firm basis.

Gold watches were presented to the Grand Treasurer and late Grand Secretary as testimonials of appreciation of their faithful services.

The Grand High Priest introduced Comp. JOHN EDWIN MASON, late chairman of the Committee on Correspondence of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, who, in brief but well chosen remarks, addressed the "Mother Chapter of Royal Arch Masonry in America."

The second Quarterly Convocation was held in the city of Boston, on the thirteenth day of June, 1871.

The committee to whom was referred that portion of the Grand High Priest's Address, at the last Quarterly Convocation, relative to dimits, reported the following, which was concurred in:—

Before a charter for a new Chapter shall be issued by this Grand Body, the Grand High Priest shall be furnished with satisfactory assurances that the petitioners therefor intend to become members of the same, and they shall present dimits from the Chapters of their affiliations; or, if they do not hold membership in any Chapter, they shall present satisfactory certificates of their standing as Royal Arch Masons; and before they shall be entitled to the privileges of membership in the new Chapter, they must have signed the By-Laws thereof; and any one neglecting this duty for the space of six months, shall be subject to ballot for membership in the manner as is usual with companions coming by dimit. This seems to your committee to cover the subject matter of the report and questions. One of the questions was satisfactorily settled by the decision of the Grand High Priest, and, being an exceptional case, does not seem to them to require special legislation. All of which is respectfully submitted.

At the third Quarterly Convocation, held on the twelfth day of September, the only business of *general* interest transacted, was the determination, by a "decisive vote," to continue the ancient and nourishing custom of providing a collation on the day of the Annual Convocation.

The Annual Convocation was holden in the city of Boston on the 12th day of December, 1871,—the *M. E.* HENRY CHICKERING, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* ALFRED F. CHAPMAN being Grand Secretary.

Forty-six subordinate Chapters were represented. The Address of the Grand High Priest is an able and interesting paper, filled with good, sound common sense

suggestions. He does not go out of his way to discuss abstract propositions, but confines himself principally to matters of interest to his own jurisdiction. We fully concur in the following ideas and suggestions :—

No doubt much good results from frequent official visits to the several Chapters. I think each Chapter should be visited by some one officially delegated, once a year. Though I have not been able to visit all of them as often as this, I have visited every Chapter in the State during my term of office, most of them twice, and several of them each year, in most cases taking quite a delegation with me. I believe that this has accomplished good, and that the Chapters are in much better condition for it. Some of the Chapters had never received an official visit before, and were much encouraged by it. The Chapters have now become so numerous, that the continuance of the visits as heretofore involves too much tax on the time of your officers, and is accompanied by too much expense. I would recommend, therefore, that hereafter each Chapter be annually assigned by the Grand High Priest to some member of the Grand Council, or other competent officer, whose duty it shall be to visit it during the year, examine its charter, records, by-laws, facilities for, and mode of work, security from observation, etc., and report to the Grand High Priest; or else that the State be districted and assigned to deputies, who shall perform the same duty.

He speaks in glowing terms of the hospitality shown by the Fraternity at Baltimore upon the occasion of the last Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter. He says :—

The arrangements of the Fraternity at Baltimore for their entertainment, comfort, and pleasure were on the most generous and magnificent scale. Public halls were fitted up in the most gorgeous style, trimmed with flags, portraits, ornaments, flowers, etc., etc., supplied with bands of music, and kept constantly open to the members of the Fraternity, who were entertained with an unsparing hand, and the most liberal hospitality.

In connection with the foregoing, he advances the following sensible idea :—

While we would not for a moment detract from the proud honor won by our companions by this more than liberal hospitality, it is a serious question whether this desire of the Fraternity in each place of meeting to excel in the hospitality that of the preceding place, and the time given to public parades, entertainments, banquets, etc., is not becoming altogether too expensive, and interfering too much with the legitimate business of the Bodies. The feeling that this is so, doubtless contributed to the final conclusion that it was better that the meetings of the General Grand Chapter should hereafter be held at a different time and place from those of the Grand Encampment, and it was decided to hold the next triennial of the former at Nashville, Tenn.

He announces that, during the year, four dispensations had been granted to form new Chapters, and nine Chapters have been chartered and constituted. Peace, harmony, and almost uninterrupted prosperity, he says, have been theirs, for which blessing we join him in grateful thanksgiving to the Supreme Grand High Priest, "without whose blessing all our efforts are vain."

The Report on Correspondence is again from the pen of Comp. JOHN W. DADMUN, and is fully up to his usual standard of excellence. He reviews the transactions of thirty-four Grand Chapters, California for 1871 receiving due notice. We can assure Comp. DADMUN that there has been no more Sunday work since the instance alluded to by him occurred.

In his review of Connecticut he alludes to some strictures of Comp. LOCKWOOD upon the practice of transacting the business of the Chapter in any degree in which they may chance to be open. We had occasion in our last report to say something upon this subject, and we are not sorry that so able a writer and Masonic jurist as Comp. LOCKWOOD is of our way of thinking. We believe that all business of the Chapter should be transacted in the Royal Arch degree, for obvious reasons. It would be rather an awkward proceeding, if Comp. DADMUN's idea were carried out, to call a Lodge of Mark Masters and then request a portion of them to retire and cool their heels in an ante-room while the remainder transacted business in which they were not allowed to participate. Comp. DADMUN speaks of the difference in the Masonic clothing in the Royal Arch degree, and the time it would occupy to change to

a lower degree, but we can not see the necessity of putting on *all* your good clothes at a meeting open for business simply. Comp. DADMUN says:—

The most we shall say on this subject at present is, that it has been the *custom* in this jurisdiction, as far back as the memory of any one living runneth, to do all business while open on any degree of the Chapter. In the absence of any specific rule, *custom* becomes the *law*. Then, again, the Masonic clothing differs so materially in the Royal Arch that it must require much more time to make the change necessary in passing to either of the other degrees, unless we open without form. The only objection to our practice is the rule applied to Blue Lodge Masonry. If it is said that none should be present during the balloting but Royal Arch Masons, it is a very easy matter to exclude all others until the business is done. If Massachusetts is radically wrong in this matter she is willing to be set right. We wait for "more light."

In the following remarks, alluding to the Address of the Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Georgia, we most heartily concur:—

Some of his language more than intimates that he believes Freemasonry to be a divine institution. If this is his opinion we think he is greatly mistaken. "Freemasonry," says a learned author, "is a beautiful system of morality, veiled in allegory, and illustrated by symbols." It is no more divine than a temperance society, or any other organization instituted for the purpose of promoting good morals. While we have just reason to be proud of the *principles* of the Order, let us be careful not to claim for it the "resplendent light of divine inspiration." Masonry was first operative, then speculative. *Speculative Masonry* is of much more recent date than the Christian Church, and is a help to a religious life only so far as its sublime principles are exemplified in the lives of its members.

We would gladly quote many more good things from this excellent report, but time and space are wanting.

The *M. E.* ALFRED F. CHAPMAN was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* Z. H. THOMAS, JR., was elected Grand Secretary. Address, Cambridgeport.

MICHIGAN.

The Grand Chapter of the State of Michigan held its twenty-third Annual Convocation in the city of Detroit, commencing on the third day of January, 1872, the *M. E.* HUGH McCURDY, Grand High Priest presiding, the *R. E.* J. EASTMAN JOHNSON being Grand Secretary.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is a lengthy and interesting paper, occupying some nineteen pages of the printed proceedings. The record of his official acts form the bulk of this rather formidable document, and proves that he has been by no means idle. He reports the issue of six dispensations for the formation of new Chapters, and during the year nine Chapters had been constituted and their officers installed. He speaks feelingly of the great losses sustained by the terrible fires of 1871, and of the promptitude by which the distress of the sufferers was relieved by those who were fortunate enough to escape the great calamity.

He owns up to having granted a large number of special dispensations, but rather plumes himself upon the fact that he had refused to grant *two*, asking authority to confer the degrees upon brothers who were temporarily sojourning within that jurisdiction, but were residents of other States.

He bestows a well-merited compliment upon the Grand Secretary, every word of which we are ready to endorse. The pamphlet before us, containing the proceedings, is a model of neatness and typographical excellence, and shows evidence of a master workman's hand. We note the following decisions:—

I. Question—A candidate is elected to take the Chapter degrees and is advanced to the honorary degree of a Mark Master, and is prepared to receive the next degree, when a companion objects to his further advancement. What is to be done in such a case?

Answer—By our Constitution, when a Chapter elects a brother to receive the degrees, he is entitled to all the degrees without further ballot. An edict of this Grand Chapter provides "that when a candidate shall have been duly elected, but before he receives a degree, if *objection shall be made to his advancement by a companion who was not present at the election*, such objection shall operate as a rejection of the candidate, and his money shall be refunded."

This edict treats the question how a candidate shall be disposed of *after election, and before he has been made a brother*. When he crosses the threshold, and receives one or more degrees, he has the right to sit in the Lodge in which he has received Masonic light, whatever that may be—he now stands as a *brother*—not as a candidate. If he applies for advancement and is refused, he has a Masonic right to know what is the cause of the *confusion among the Craft*, that he may have a chance to meet the accuser face to face—meet the accusation, and have the judgment of his peers. I must, therefore, decide that when a companion objects verbally to a brother receiving the Past Master's degree, being acknowledged a Most Excellent Master, or being exalted to the Holy Royal Arch, the High Priest shall request the objector to file charges and specifications against the brother; and in case of his neglect or refusal so to do, the High Priest may proceed to confer the degrees.

II. *Question*—Is it the duty of a Chapter to grant a dimit to a companion who does not state in his application for the dimit the reason why he wishes a dimit?

Answer—No. Based upon previous decisions, in which however I do not personally concur, a Chapter can not grant a dimit only on *good cause shown*.

We hold that it is the right of any companion to withdraw from his Chapter as freely and voluntarily as he entered it, provided all his obligations have been discharged and no charges are pending against him, and Comp. McCurdy is evidently of our opinion, as in recommending amendments to the Constitution we find the following :—

I would also respectfully recommend that an edict be passed, or an amendment made to the Constitution, declaring that a companion has a right to withdraw from his Chapter, provided he is free from the books, and not under charges and specifications.

III. *Question*—A companion is suspended in his Blue Lodge; how does this affect him in his Chapter, and what should be done?

Answer—It is a Masonic rule, of universal application, that when a companion is suspended in a Blue Lodge, it suspends him in his Chapter without trial; and in such case it is the prerogative of a High Priest of his Chapter to procure and file in his Chapter a certificate from the Blue Lodge of such conviction and sentence, and order one entered in the records of his Chapter of like tenure and effect.

IV. *Question*—Can a Chapter receive the petition of a candidate who is an unaffiliated Mason?

Answer—The Constitution of this Grand Body, section 2, article VI, provides that “no petition shall be received for conferring the Chapter degrees until the applicant has been a Master Mason three months, and made suitable proficiency.” In view of this provision, with the fact that suspension or expulsion from the Blue Lodge operates as such in the Chapter. I am clearly of the opinion that a Chapter cannot receive the petition of a candidate who is not at the time of making it a member of a subordinate Lodge.

V. *Question*—A Chapter reinstates a companion who has been suspended, which vote is taken by a show of hands, and results in restoration; is such vote legal, not having been by ballot?

Answer—The Chapter has the right to take the vote in its own prudent way, in such a manner as it may choose. It is the common custom in all our grand bodies in such cases to vote *viva voce*, or by show of hands, both in cases of expulsion and restoration.

He gives an interesting history of Royal Arch Masonry in that jurisdiction, and closes with the following eloquent peroration :—

Masonry had, not many years previous to these events, encountered enemies. Malignant spirit, unholy ambition, dogged pertinacity, political, social, and religious persecutions, and blind jealousy, in combined wrath, never more sharply assailed any human institution. For the time, Masonry recoiled before the blast. Her altars were shamefully abandoned, and her members were scattered. But there were found a choice few who never bowed the knee to Baal. The precious seed, incapable of annihilation, took deeper root in the inner shrine of the human heart, and Masonry emerged into new life. The fancies of the poets—the phoenix arising from its ashes; Venus springing into being from the foam of the sea in entrancing beauty; Minerva, born fully developed from the brain of Jupiter; these were no longer mere beautiful fancies. Masonry was the realization of them all. Is the lion courageous? Is the ox strong? Is man (emblematically) wise? Does the eagle in his sublime flight gaze firmly into the unclouded sun? Masonry combines courage, strength, and wisdom; and ever in her progress looks serenely upward. Masonry has over 500,000 members in the United States. Of these, one hundred thousand are of the Royal Craft, and over six thousand, represented by eighty-three Chapters, are of the jurisdiction of the Most Excellent the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Michigan.

But, let not these things make us boastful. Let them rather render us doubly mindful of our duties, and doubly zealous to perform them. Act prudently in guarding the portals. Act humbly to be truly exalted. Act promptly in relieving the destitute. Act ever in reverence toward the Book of the Law, and faithfully in keeping its precepts. These things will make us not unworthy successors of those ancient worthies who aided in rebuilding the destroyed Temple—nor unworthy to aid in transmitting their virtues to our posterity.

The Report on Correspondence is again from the ready pen of Comp. J. EASTMAN JOHNSON, and is an interesting and carefully prepared paper. In it are reviewed the transactions of thirty-six Grand Chapters, and also those of the General Grand Chapter at its last Triennial Convocation. In speaking of the General Grand Chapter he says :—

And we here record our conviction that independent of its specific acts, the assembling, face to face, of the Grand Councils and other representatives of all the Grand Chapters of our States, has done much to dissipate suspicion, to create mutual confidence, to strengthen friendships, and to concentrate the energies of the trusted men of the Order, in advancing the common cause for the common good. In this point of view among many, we would perpetuate the General Grand Chapter. To disband its elements, as previously threatened, was not there even mentioned. Such an act would not knit us into happy harmony of action any sooner than the dissolution of the General Government would knit into happy harmony the States of this political Union.

California receives from him a brief but courteous and fraternal notice, and the report of our predecessor is spoken of in terms of praise.

Comp. JOHNSON is opposed to the representative system and to the use of substitutes, and loses no opportunity to pitch a hot shot into both. While we can not fully concur with him in his views upon these matters, we confess that he presents tolerably strong arguments in support of his position ; but, as the representative system appears to meet with general favor, and the question of using substitutes, after full and thorough discussion, is left entirely to the discretion of the several Grand Chapters, we prefer to leave both these vexed questions without further comment.

The *M. E.* LEONARD H. RANDALL was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* J. EASTMAN JOHNSON was reelected Grand Secretary.

Since writing the foregoing, the proceedings of the twenty-fourth Annual Convocation have also come to hand. It was held in the city of Detroit, commencing on the first day of January, 1873,—the *M. E.* LEONARD H. RANDALL, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* J. EASTMAN JOHNSON being Grand Secretary. All the Grand Officers were present, and seventy-nine subordinate Chapters were represented at the opening. Ten Past Grand High Priests also answered to the roll call.

The Grand High Priest delivered an excellent address, in which occurs the following cheering announcement :—

The year, now closed, has been a signal one in the history of Royal Arch Masonry in Michigan. The Craft has been prosperous beyond precedent ; the utmost harmony has prevailed within the limits of our jurisdiction, and the material selected for our Mystic Temple has been such that it has not only passed the "overseer's square," but is fit and worthy to become "the headstone of the corner."

A year ago we were saddened by the tidings of disaster and desolation wrought by the terrible fires of October, 1871, by which our companions of Michigan suffered most severely ; but we are rejoiced to learn that, by energy and perseverance, aided by the fraternal offerings of warm-hearted, generous, and sympathizing friends, they have again erected their desolated altars, and once more a season of prosperity has dawned upon them—long may it continue.

Two dispensations to form new Chapters were issued, and sundry petitions for special dispensations were refused. The following reason given by the Grand High Priest for refusing such petitions accords exactly with our ideas, and we are delighted to find one such officer who has the courage to place his foot upon the practice and boldly state his reasons for so doing. He says :—

I have also received quite a number of petitions for special dispensations to receive petitions and confer degrees out of the usual course, which, upon a careful examination and consideration, I have in each instance refused to grant, believing as I do that the frequent granting of such applications is not calculated to promote the good of the Craft, and ought to be done only in extreme cases. When a Mason has resided within the jurisdiction of a Chapter a number of years, and has had occasion to observe the workings of our institution, and has had no desire to become a member thereof until a time when he determines to change his residence or go abroad, and then makes his application, it carries with it a strong presumption that he is influenced by selfish and mercenary motives, instead of a desire to be serviceable to his fellow creatures, and of uniting in the grand design of being happy himself and communicating happiness to others. The Temple at Jerusalem was seven years in building, which ought to teach us this lesson: That we should not be hasty in the selection and preparation of material for our moral and Masonic edifice, remembering always that our strength does not consist in the number of Royal Arch Masons, or the rapidity with which we make them, so much as in the material we use.

Sound common sense, expressed in good Anglo Saxon. He gives the following decision, in which we concur:—

Question.—A companion is suspended by his Lodge from all the rights and benefits of Masonry. His Chapter is notified thereof, but takes no action, further than entering the fact of such expulsion or suspension in its minutes. He is subsequently restored by his Lodge to all the rights and benefits of Masonry. Is any action required by the Chapter to restore him to membership and the rights and benefits of Royal Arch Masonry?

Answer.—No action by the Chapter is necessary, further than to enter the fact of such restoration by his Lodge on the record. When a member of a Chapter is expelled or suspended by his Lodge his connection is severed with the whole Masonic family, because Capitular Masonry recognizes Symbolic Masonry as the ground work and foundation of our Masonic institution. Hence, while under a sentence of expulsion or suspension from his Lodge, the Chapter enforces such penalty by refusing Masonic recognition, and when he is restored by his Lodge he is restored to all his Masonic relations, not because the restoration by the Lodge is binding on the Chapter as a law, but because the sentence pronounced by the Lodge affected his Masonic standing in the Chapter, and when the sentence was abrogated his Masonic standing in the Chapter was no longer affected by it.

The Grand Secretary again presented an excellent Report on Correspondence, reviewing ably and courteously the proceedings of twenty-six Grand Chapters, California for 1872 included.

He quotes the language of Past Grand High Priest ENGLISH in reference to the use of substitutes, and the action of our Grand Chapter upon the question, but still thinks that "the true resolve should be, *change the ritual or change the practice.*"

He mildly rebukes us for a seeming, though entirely unintentional neglect on our part, and we fell into a state of unmitigated regret when we read the following, from which we have not yet recovered:—

We regret to note that the name of "Michigan" is absent from the Grand Secretary's list of Grand Chapters in communication with the Grand Chapter of California. If Comp. WIGGIN, fresh in his seat, will examine carefully the records of his Grand Chapter, he will find that our "flag is still there." Besides, we have in our hand at this present writing, Comp. WIGGIN's esteemed favor of 2d April, 1872, acknowledging our letter to him of 23d March, with *advance copy of our proceedings for 1872.* This was followed by two more copies sent him on the 26th of March.

We supposed, by sending you, Comp. WIGGIN, *our advance copy*, that we should find recognition, at least, by you as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, which we do not discover. We look for "the *amende honorable.*"

Certainly, Comp. JOHNSON, you are entitled to it, and you shall have it. We acknowledge the receipt of the *advance copy* of the proceedings for 1872, but the trouble was, it was not far enough in *advance.* When it came to hand, our report was in press; we did intend, however, to review it in time for publication with the proceedings; but alas! for good intentions; they may make an excellent pavement for certain localities, but they are not always reliable in the production of definite results. The fact is our proceedings for 1872 were brought forth in trouble and pain. Shortly after the close of the Annual Convocation of our Grand Chapter, we were attacked by a disease—composed of a due admixture of gout, rheumatism, and

epizootic—and, with a big ache at both extremities, we resolutely worked on until the task was completed. But we did no more than we were absolutely obliged to ; and we may as well acknowledge the truth, we positively forgot all about Michigan until it was too late. So much for our failure to review the proceedings. The mortifying fact that Michigan is stricken from the roll of our correspondents is simply attributable to one of those blunders of the printer which so frequently occur. We sent the printed list of last year as copy, and we'll take our *davy* that Michigan was in that. We are very sorry, Comp. JOHNSON, and promise not to do so any more.

The statistical table gives eighty-two chartered Chapters and three under dispensation, with an aggregate membership of six thousand two hundred and eighty. Six hundred and forty-two were exalted during the year.

The *M. E.* JOHN W. FINCH was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* J. EASTMAN JOHNSON was reelected Grand Secretary. Address, Centreville.

MINNESOTA.

The Grand Chapter of Minnesota held its eleventh Annual Convocation in the city of St. Paul, on the ninth day of January, 1872, the *M. E.* G. W. MERRILL, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* W. S. COMBS being Grand Secretary.

Sixteen Chapters were represented at the opening, and six Past Grand High Priests and a Past Grand King graced the Convocation with their presence.

At the last Annual Convocation, a committee was appointed, consisting of the Grand High Priest, the Deputy Grand High Priest, and the Grand Secretary, to procure a reprint of the proceedings, all the printed copies previous to 1868 having been destroyed by fire. The committee, it appears, performed the duty imposed upon them, and, as the Grand High Priest informs us in his Address, the Grand Secretary devoted much time and painstaking to compile a work that would be a credit to the Grand Chapter. To pay for this work, the Grand High Priest was authorized to levy an assessment upon the subordinate Chapters in proportion to their membership, not to exceed one dollar for each member. And now ensues an action that excites our "special wonder." A subordinate Chapter, wise in its own conceit, declares the action of the Grand Chapter unconstitutional, and flatly refuses to pay its assessment. The following manifesto from said subordinate we print as a curiosity :—

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF WINONA R. A. CHAPTER, No. 5,
WINONA, December 26, 1871.

It is hereby certified, that at a stated Convocation of this Chapter, held this day, the following resolution was unanimously adopted :—

"This Chapter declines to pay the assessment made by the Grand Chapter, from a conviction that it is unconstitutional, and subversive of the principles of the Order."

Witness my hand and the seal of the Chapter.

[SEAL.]

JOHN KEYES, Secretary.

ROCHESTER, MINN., December 6, 1871.

To Wm. S. Coombs, Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Minn. :—

COMPANION :—In the matter of the assessment of the Grand Chapter on Halcyon Chapter, No. 8, of \$105, I beg leave to make the following statement.

Your letter to our then Secretary, Comp. W. C. BUTLER, notifying us of the assessment, and for what purpose it was made, was referred to a committee in June, I think, which committee had no opportunity to make report, until our stated meeting of Saturday 2d inst. The report of the committee was substantially that the Grand Chapter had the right to make such an assessment, and that our Chapter could not do otherwise than pay it. An opposite opinion, however, prevailed.

The subject matter was very generally and candidly discussed by the companions present, the discussion culminating in the adoption of a resolution, a nearly unanimous vote, respectfully declining to acknowledge the obligation. The resolution recites that the action of the Grand Chapter, in making such an assessment, was unconstitutional. At the same time, it declares the utmost loyalty of Halcyon Chapter, No. 8, to the Grand Chapter, and to the principles of the Order.

This resolution undoubtedly reflects the sentiments of a very large majority of Royal Arch Masons in this local Jurisdiction. Such was my own opinion at the be-

ginning, but in order not to appear precipitate in the matter, I advised its reference to a committee, with instructions to investigate and report, with what result is already stated.

The opinion of the committee was based, I believe, chiefly on the doctrine of unquestioned and unquestionable subordination of the inferior to the superior body. The opinion which prevailed, however, was based upon a strict rendering of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, which recognizes no way of raising money from subordinate Chapters except by "dues and fees." To class this assessment with either "dues" or "fees," seemed to the companions impossible.

The enterprise to which this levy was to have been appropriated may have been a worthy one, and several members of our Chapter express themselves willing to contribute toward its consummation. But the mode proposed for raising the wherewith being at best *extra-constitutional*, the Chapter decides, as a party in interest, it may or may not consent to it, as a majority of its members deem just.

I have the honor to subscribe myself, with much respect,

Faternally yours,

H. GALLOWAY,

H. P. of Halcyon Chapter, No. 8.

Resolved, That this Chapter is of the opinion that the action of the Grand Chapter, in levying a tax on the subordinate Chapters for the publication of proceedings, is unconstitutional.

And therefore, we respectfully decline to pay the same—professing at the same time, an earnest intention to comply with all legal requirements that may be made upon us, and our devotion to the principles of the Order.

Rochester, December 31, 1871.

CHAS. RUST,

Sec'y Halcyon Chapter, No. 8.

[No seal.]

The Grand High Priest in his Address, in alluding to this matter, takes the following common-sense view of the situation. He says:—

Of the right of a Grand Chapter—its membership constituted almost wholly or in large proportion by the representatives of the subordinate Chapters, and whose authority over said Chapters is supreme, within constitutional limits, to impose a simple tax, for a necessary purpose, there can be, I think, no reasonable doubt. Nor can there be any question as to the necessity of the work that was ordered to be done. By the burning of the Lodge room in this city, in 1868, all the copies of printed proceedings of this Grand Chapter, previous to that date, were destroyed, excepting a few copies in the hands of companions; and there was no work that seemed so important for the Grand Chapter to perform, at its last session, as that of ordering a reprint of its proceedings, for the use and information of the companions of this Grand jurisdiction. Section 1, of Article 3, (last clause) of the Grand Constitution, provides that, "It may require from the subordinate Chapters such dues and fees as will, at all times, discharge the engagements of the Grand Chapter." How language so plain and unequivocal as this, can be twisted into a meaning the contrary of what is expressed, is more than I can comprehend. Yet *Halcyon Chapter, No. 8*, denies the legality of the assessment, and declines by resolution to comply with the order of the Grand Chapter.

On what particular grounds it is claimed that this tax is unconstitutional, I am not informed, or how companions of so much intelligence, and who profess so much loyalty to this Grand Body, can defend action that is so nearly contumacious, does not appear. This matter coming up so near the time of the Annual Convocation, I thought it advisable to take no further action, but refer the whole subject to this Grand Body.

The matter was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, and a majority and minority report was submitted.

To the M. E. G. H. P. and Companions of the Grand Chapter of R. A. M. of the State of Minnesota:—

Companions: The undersigned members of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the matter of the constitutionality of the assessment made by this Grand Chapter at its last Grand Convocation, for the purpose of paying for a reprint of Grand Chapter proceedings, beg leave to report, that in our opinion said assessment was just and equitable, and strictly within the powers vested in this Grand Body by Section 1, of Article 3, of our Grand Chapter Constitution. And we therefore recommend that said assessment be declared constitutional, and binding on the subordinate Chapters.

M. W. GETCHELL, } Members of
E. D. B. PORTER, } Committee.

The majority of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence submitted the following report:—

To the M.: W.: the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons :—

The undersigned, a majority of your Committee on Jurisprudence, beg leave to report, that they have had under consideration the resolution of this Grand Chapter, adopted at its last session, authorizing and requiring a special assessment upon subordinate Chapters, not exceeding one dollar *per capita* upon the members thereof, for the purpose of defraying the expense of republishing the proceedings of this Grand Chapter, and the action of *Winona* Chapter, No. 5, and *Halcyon* Chapter, No. 8, in refusing to pay said assessment, upon the ground that the Grand Chapter exceeded its authority in authorizing such assessment.

We deem it undeniably true, that the Grand Chapter have only such authority as is given by the Constitution under which it is organized, and cannot act in contravention of that instrument, and by such action bind subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction.

The Constitution gives to this Grand Chapter power to require of subordinate Chapters the payment of such *fees* and *dues* as will at all times discharge the obligations of the Grand Chapter.

The same Constitution declares that each Chapter shall pay a *fee* of one hundred dollars for a charter, and the By-Laws provide that each Chapter shall pay three dollars as *dues* for each exaltation.

This *fee* cannot be increased or diminished except by an alteration of the Constitution, in the mode therein prescribed; and the dues fixed by the By-Laws can only be varied by a change in those By-Laws, made in the manner pointed out by the By-Laws themselves.

By the resolution of the Grand Chapter levying this tax, it was not attempted to amend or change the Constitution or By-Laws in any particular, and unless some authority in the Constitution, which has been overlooked by us, can be pointed to authorizing this special assessment, it would follow that the action of the Grand Chapter was without binding force.

We have been unable to find any such authority, and therefore report the following resolution :—

Resolved, That the action of this Grand Chapter, at its last session, levying a tax upon subordinate Chapters, not exceeding one dollar *per capita* upon the members thereof, to provide funds for the re-publication of the Grand Chapter proceedings, was unauthorized by the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Chapter.

January 9, 1872.

CHAS. GRISWOLD,	} Members of Com-
R. A. JONES,	
A. J. EDGERTON,	
	mittee on Juris-
	prudence.

The vote being taken upon the adoption of the minority report, it was lost, and the majority report was adopted.

The Grand Chapter, not having sufficiently stultified itself by this action, adopted the following resolution :—

Resolved, That all Chapters that have advanced moneys to this Grand Chapter for the purpose of assisting in paying for the reprint of Grand Chapter proceedings, shall be allowed interest on the same at the rate of twelve per cent. per annum, from the time said sums were paid, until such sums are returned.

We agree with the Grand High Priest, that the Grand Chapter had a perfect right under the Constitution to levy such an assessment. Section 1, of Article III, provides that, "it may require from the subordinate Chapters such dues and fees as will, at all times, discharge the *engagements* of the Grand Chapter."

The Grand Chapter, having by its action in ordering the reprint incurred an *engagement*, it was in duty bound to provide the necessary funds to discharge that engagement. Had we been Grand High Priest, we should have considered the action of that subordinate not only as contumacious, but as having been conceived in "pure cussedness," and we would not have slept until we had its charter in our coat pocket.

We miss the Report on Correspondence which should have come from the able pen of Comp. A. T. C. PIERSON, but didn't.

The Grand Secretary says: "The proceedings have been delayed waiting for the Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, to make his report, which he has neglected to do."

We presume Comp. PIERSON must have some good reason for disappointing those who usually enjoy the pleasure of reading his reports, and therefore we will not scold him until we know the reasons why.

The Grand Secretary writes, under the head of "Foreign Correspondence," a review of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, the existence of which, he says, has been practically ignored by the Grand Chapter of Minnesota, owing to an "unpleasantness" which has existed between the Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence (Comp. PIERSON) and that Grand Body.

We venture to predict that there will be less of "unpleasantness" hereafter manifested toward that Grand Chapter from several quarters.

There are twenty subordinates under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Minnesota, with an aggregate membership of—several, if not more—which is as near as can arrive at it from the printed reports.

The M. E. J. H. MCKENNEY was elected Grand High Priest, and the R. E. WILLIAM S. COMBS was reelected Grand Secretary. Address: St. Paul.

MISSISSIPPI.

The twenty-fourth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Mississippi was held in the city of Holly Springs, commencing on the 18th day of January, 1872,—the M. E. CHARLES T. BOND, Grand High Priest, presiding, the R. E. J. L. POWER being Grand Secretary. Fifty-six Chapters were represented—one hundred and one being borne upon the Registry. From the Address of the Grand High Priest we learn that good order and harmony prevail throughout the jurisdiction.

He thus feelingly alludes to the affliction which befell our brethren of Chicago and elsewhere in 1871:—

While rejoicing in our own prosperity and thankful for the blessings bestowed upon us and comforts surrounding us, we should not—we must not—forget the terrible calamities which have fallen upon our companions in other Grand jurisdictions. But a few days since, where stood stately buildings and proud Masonic temples, and prosperity was enjoyed, now desolation marks many of those places, and the busy marts of trade and commerce are swept away, and blackened ruins remain only to show the uncertainty of wealth. We must not forget the duty of the hour: the homeless must be sheltered; the hungry fed; the naked clothed; the widow and the orphan must be provided for. If anything can be devised for their relief it should be done; the subject should be carefully considered, and the result which may be arrived at show that we have done all we can in uniting the noble and grand design.

Nothing gives us more pleasure than to read of an improvement in the *morals* of our companions of sister jurisdictions, and when we perused the following we felt that there is yet a "balm in Gilead" and a "physician there."

I cannot allow the occasion to pass without announcing the gratifying fact of marked improvement in one of the cardinal virtues of our Order—temperance. The united efforts of good and true companions can and will do much to effect reform in all grades of society, and I sincerely hope that it may ere long be truthfully said that no man who has bowed at the altar of Freemasonry, worships at the shrine of Bacchus.

He announces in fitting terms the death of Past Grand Master and Past Grand High Priest, G. M. HILLYER, who died in Vicksburg on the twenty-third of day April, 1871.

We learn from the report of the Grand Secretary that the financial condition of the Grand Chapter has not improved since last year, the total debt being \$4977 41—\$2095 of which was incurred by reprinting the proceedings.

The Grand Secretary recommends sundry measures to refill their depleted coffers, one of which is that the Reports on Correspondence be not published with the proceedings until otherwise ordered.

While we sincerely regret the loss of Comp. PATTON's interesting and valuable reports, we must acknowledge the propriety, under such circumstances, of adopting every possible measure of economy.

The M. E. H. C. ROBINSON was elected Grand High Priest, and the R. E. J. L. POWER was reelected Grand Secretary. Address—Jackson.

MISSOURI.

The Grand Chapter of Missouri held its twenty-sixth Annual Convocation in the city of St. Louis, commencing on the tenth day of October, 1872, the *M.·E.·* JOSEPH M. Fox, Grand High Priest, presiding, and the *R.·E.·* GEORGE FRANK GOULEY being Grand Secretary.

Fifty-one Chapters were represented at the opening. The Grand High Priest reports the issue of three dispensations to form new Chapters, and recommends that charters be granted to them.

To those who are constantly applying for constructions of the law, we commend the following :—

During the past two years, my companions, no question has been submitted for my action, the proper solution of which could not be found in the plain written law. And you will notice that, in this, as well as in the first report I had the honor to make to this Grand Body, there is no special mention of any decisions. This is, in my opinion, a most gratifying, and I may say, so far as the Chapters are interested, a most complimentary showing. For, as in the case of nations, whose prosperity is best attested by the absence, rather than the presence, of great statutory bulk, so in this instance it is with ourselves.

This argues a commendable degree of Masonic knowledge on the part of our Missouri brethren, and shows conclusively that they have taken some pains to inform themselves, and having read the law, do not vex the soul of the Grand High Priest with judicial conundrums, the solution of which, in nine cases out of ten, would be simply a repetition of *lex scripta*.

From the Address of the Grand High Priest, we are led to expect a report from the Deputy, but it does not appear. The committee to whom the address was referred, however, in their report, haul the Deputy Grand High Priest over the coals for letting a *wolf* into the fold in too much of a hurry; or in other words, for granting a dispensation to a subordinate Chapter to confer the degrees upon one WOLF in less than the prescribed time. A substitute for the report of the committee was presented and adopted, which, in effect, sanctioned the action of the Deputy, for this once only, and he was told to go and sin no more, and for fear he might do so, the Standing Regulation upon which his action was based was repealed.

It appears also that the Deputy Grand High Priest, while acting as Grand High Priest, rendered a decision to the effect that charges, once preferred before a Chapter, could not be withdrawn without going through a formal trial.

From this decision the committee dissent, and report that, in their opinion, "charges may be withdrawn with the consent of the Chapter."

In this we concur; but the use of *substitutes* appears to be sanctioned by the Grand Chapter of Missouri, for here another was thrown in, which sustained the decision of the Deputy Grand High Priest.

One Chapter had surrendered its charter during the year; but, generally, the Royal Craft in Missouri appears to be in a healthy and flourishing condition. The Grand Treasurer reports a balance on hand of \$4457 18.

The Committee on Grievances and the Committee on Unfinished Business both report "nothing to do." Comp. GEORGE FRANK GOULEY again affords us a rich treat in his Report on Correspondence. He reviews the transactions of thirty-two Grand Chapters, California for 1872 receiving a courteous and fraternal notice. He is pleased to speak of the writer in terms of praise, for which we return him our thanks. He quotes that portion of our last year's report in relation to Chapters under dispensation, in all of which he concurs. He says :—

|| We are glad to know that the vague theory of "inchoate" bodies is being rapidly exploded among intelligent and thinking Masons. It has not got the first element of law or common sense in it, to keep it alive.

He quotes the following from the Address of the Grand High Priest of the District of Columbia :—

I know of but two ways of acquiring full membership in a Masonic body, viz.: the first, by petition, ballot, and initiation; the second, by petition and affiliation. If any other mode of acquiring full membership in a Masonic body (according to the usages of Masonry) is known, I confess my ignorance of its existence, and would gladly be enlightened upon that point.

Upon which he comments as follows :—

This is opposed to the "sight" business. We are in search of the same information. We often hear Grand High Priests and Grand Masters talking flippantly about "ancient prerogatives," "time immemorial" and all that sort of thing, but we want to see the "papers" for it. We have heard a good deal of such clap-trap and have about got tired of it, and now we want solid facts. Our brethren continually call on us for the records or law endorsing the high cockalorum prerogative of making Masons at sight, and as we can find nothing of it, we want the advocates of that theory to find it for us.

We are also a seeker after knowledge in that direction; we have been young and now we are old, and we have sought diligently these many years for the authority upon which such an absurdity is based, but we have been unable to discover the faintest trace of it, even with the aid of a powerful Corson-ical microscope.

There has never been but one instance in California of a Grand Master making Masons at sight, and the Grand Lodge made it so very warm for him, that neither he nor any of his successors have ever attempted to repeat the joke.

We believe the practice was in vogue in England in the dark ages, or thereabout; but there was then no written law, and since the day of Constitutions we have not seen one that placed such power in the hands of the Grand Master.

In concluding his review of California, Comp. GOULEY says: "We extend (as a member of the 'Mutuals') our right hand to the new member from California."

We accept with pleasure the proffered hand, Comp. GOULEY, and metaphorically grasp it with a fraternal grip. We hope you will one day make a pilgrimage to this "*terra de Los Angeles*," when we shall take pleasure in making it warm for you.

The *M. E.* JAMES E. CARTER was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* GEO. FRANK GOULEY was reelected Grand Secretary. Address: St. Louis.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The Grand Chapter of New Hampshire held its Annual Convocation in the city of Concord, on the fourteenth day of May, 1872,—the *M. E.* JOHN A. HARRIS, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* ABEL HUTCHINS being Grand Secretary.

Seventeen subordinate Chapters were represented at the opening. The Grand High Priest, in his Address, congratulates the companions upon the good attendance of "aged men, Masons of long standing," who, through storm and sunshine, had been instrumental in sustaining the Grand Chapter and placing it upon a firm and lasting foundation. He reports that during the year prosperity had attended the Royal Craft in that jurisdiction. The only official act reported by him is his attendance upon the General Grand Chapter at its last Triennial Convocation.

The duties of the Deputy Grand High Priest appear to have been of a more arduous nature, as he reports an official visit to *two* of the subordinate Chapters, and an intention to visit another; press of business, however, prevented him from indulging to an undue extent his predilections as a visitor.

The Grand Treasurer reports a balance in his hands of \$656 15.

The Report on Correspondence is from the pen of Comp. JOHN J. BELL, and is an ably written paper. He reviews, in an interesting manner, the transactions of thirty-nine Grand Chapters, California, for 1871, included. He notices the little unpleasantness which resulted in the withdrawal of the dispensation granted to *Donner* Chapter, and the suspension of the Grand Lecturer. He says:—

The Committee on Jurisprudence thus state the irregularities to which the G. H. P. alluded. The Constitution of the Grand Chapter provided that all by-laws must be submitted to the Grand Chapter, until which they should not be valid until approved; provided, they might be acted under until the next Annual Convocation,

if approved by the G. H. P. *Donner* Chapter, at its first meeting, voted that until the Committee on By-Laws should report, the stated meetings should be held at certain times. This the G. H. P. and the committee held to be a by-law, and the action under it irregular. This seems to us strait judgment. Doubtless any attempt to evade the Constitution by calling permanent standing regulations by any other name than by-laws, would be too slimy an evasion to be permitted; but this vote was in its very nature temporary, and not at all in the nature of by-laws. Indeed, the Committee on By-Laws seem to have seen the impossibility of getting a Chapter started at all under this absurd decision, for they recommend, what appears to us hardly less absurd, that the by-laws (by whom adopted?) shall accompany the petition for the dispensation. Is there not, however, at the bottom of all this, something of more importance—an overthrow of the ancient framework of the Craft? The Grand Chapter, like the Grand Lodge, may make such wholesome laws as it may deem necessary. The subordinate may make such additional regulations for its own government of its private affairs as are not inconsistent: why should the Grand Chapter meddle further than to see that the by-laws contain nothing contrary to the landmarks and the Grand Constitution and laws? This idea of tutelage by the Grand Body is an overthrow of that freedom of action which is fundamental in Masonry. Are we not altogether too much governed?

We would inform Comp. BELL that the Grand Chapter of California has a uniform code of By-Laws for the government of its subordinates, all the latitude allowed them being the amount charged for fees and dues and the selection of their night of meeting; these forms are sent to those who desire to petition for a dispensation to open a new Chapter, and the blanks (amount of fees and dues, night of meeting, &c.) must be filled in and the form forwarded with the petition.

We can see no absurdity in that, no attempt to “overthrow the ancient framework of the Craft,” but we are inclined to agree with Comp. BELL in this, that in these modern days we are “*altogether too much governed.*”

The *M. E.* EDWARD GUSTINE was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* ABEL HUTCHINS was reelected Grand Secretary. Address—Concord.

NEW JERSEY.

The Grand Chapter of New Jersey held its sixteenth Annual Convocation in the city of Trenton, commencing on the eleventh day of September, 1872, the *M. E.* and Reverend WILLIAM H. JEFFREYS, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* JOHN WOLVERTON being Grand Secretary. Twenty-one Chapters were represented at the opening.

The Grand High Priest delivered an excellent Address, in which he gives some good and wholesome counsel to the Craft. He mentions the fact that the State had been visited by a fearful pestilence, carrying “hundreds and even thousands to untimely graves.” Yet he says no member of the Grand Chapter has been stricken down, and no black-bordered memorial page will appear in the proceedings of this year.

He does not believe there is anything connected with Royal Arch Masonry which will secure a man immunity from the small pox, but he evidently believes that the former is a good thing to have when the latter is around. He refers to his attendance upon the General Grand Chapter at Baltimore, and says his delegation looked so green that they were designated as the “agricultural delegation.” Yet, he remarks, “we received our full share of respect, which, as delegates from the Grand Chapter of New Jersey, we certainly would have demanded had it not been cheerfully accorded.” We don’t doubt it in the least. New Jersey would never let her light shine under a bushel, or fail to demand all that was due to her. He refers to some funny incidents connected with his Baltimore experience, such as being the officiating clergyman at the marriage of New Jersey with Maryland, and he says on another occasion he was mistaken for a Prelate of the “Roman Catholic Church, and was actually besieged at ‘low twelve’ by an army of female converts to the doctrine of immaculate conception.”

He seems to regard it as a particularly good joke that any female convert to that doctrine, should go prowling about at low twelve looking for him. We concur.

Three dispensations to form new Chapters had been granted during the year, and

only one special dispensation to confer the degrees in a shorter time than that prescribed by the Constitution. No decisions are reported, which we regard as a sign that our New Jersey companions read the law, and are able to construe it for themselves. We judge, from the tenor of the Grand High Priest's Address, that Royal Arch Masonry in New Jersey is in a most healthy and flourishing condition, and we shall not be surprised, should another epidemic prevail, to see the people resort to it as a substitute for vaccination.

The reports of the several Grand Officers who in this jurisdiction are charged with the superintendence of the Craft, show the benefits arising from such a system, and we hope it will be ere long adopted in California.

The report of the Grand Treasurer shows a healthy state of the finances, a balance of \$1,355 18 remaining in the Treasury.

The "Committee on History" reported progress and were continued.

Comp. THOMAS J. CORSON again presents the Report on Correspondence, written in his usual inimitable style. He reviews the transactions of thirty-two Grand Chapters, and of the General Grand Chapter. California for 1872 comes in for an extended notice. He quotes the remarks of Past Grand High Priest ENGLISH on the use of substitutes, and the resolutions adopted by the Grand Chapter in relation to that subject, and as he does not dissent, we infer that they meet his approval.

He speaks in such complimentary terms of our initial effort as a reporter, that we feel greatly encouraged to persevere; commendation from such a source we appreciate most fully, and the knowledge that our efforts are appreciated by those whose good opinion we most covet, serves to lighten many a weary hour of toil.

He introduces us in the following comical manner:

Comp. CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN presented the Report on Correspondence, in which thirty-two Grand Chapters pass under notice. Comp. WIGGIN is a new comer in this field of labor, but he leaps into the arena with such a saltatory bound, and he shows himself so thoroughly capable of defending himself, and is so skillful in detecting the weak points in his adversary, that we are sorry for the unfortunate wight who exposes himself to his attacks. We recognize in him a born member of the Mutual Admiration Society, and cheerfully accord him his rank way up in the list of dignitaries. We received these proceedings in the evening, and sat down to read them somewhat late. Directly, the good wife, in terms quite as forcible as polite, informed us that it was time to go to bed—but we didn't go. We were then compelled to go out, to see a patient who had discovered from personal experience the truth of the assertion that

"From melons incautiously eat
Melan-cholic effects may ensue."

But on our return we attacked the report and finished it. We got through about—well, the chickens were just consulting as to whether it was time to call from refreshment to labor. In all truthfulness, it is one of the best reports that we have read. His vivacity is so sprightly, his good humor so contagious, his puns so pungent, and his criticism so just and impartial, that the document is a most valuable acquisition to the current literature of Freemasonry. Sit right down, Companion WIGGIN, and make yourself at home—Companion TAYLOR, take his hat—Companion GOULEY, give him a little of "the same you always take," and tell Companion PATTON to hand him his "microscope" to test its purity, Companion DRUMMOND will spread the "table" for him, while Companion DADMUN says a very short grace. No, no, Companion HORNOR, you needn't deliver that "little speech of welcome" just now, for the long journey has wearied Companion WIGGIN, and you know a man "can't stand every thing."

He gets a fair hit on us in reference to what we intended as a scriptural quotation, and we quote no more without examining the text. We think, however, that Comp. ELIPHAZ wouldn't have been far wrong if he had used the sentence as we quoted it. That man is *prone to evil* as the sparks are to fly upward, is a fact that is tolerably well established. We are sure Comp. JOB would have endorsed the proposition, and as for BILDAD, he being the shortest man spoken of in the Holy Writings, we have very little respect for his opinion any way; he was only a *Shuhite*.

Comp. CORSON says if we will examine the fifth verse of the twenty-sixth chapter of Proverbs, we will find a full justification of his course towards Comp. MASON. We

have searched the Scriptures to that extent, and we would strongly recommend to Comp. CARSON to be guided hereafter by the fourth verse rather than the fifth.

Upon the subject of physical qualification he thus comments in his review of Ohio:—

We are surprised beyond our power of expression, and we are most unfeignedly grieved, that so distinguished a Masonic scholar as Companion E. T. CARSON* should offer, and that such an intelligent body as the Grand Chapter of Ohio should adopt, the following resolution, which has been made law in that State:—

“Companion E. T. CARSON, from Standing Committee, submitted and read the following report, which was agreed to, viz.:—

“The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the resolution in regard to the conferring of the Chapter degrees on maimed candidates, have had the same under consideration, and submit the following amended resolution, and recommend its adoption:—

“*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Grand Chapter, a Master Mason who has become maimed in person, is not thereby absolutely physically disqualified for receiving the degrees conferred in a Royal Arch Chapter, but the degree of injury or maiming that shall constitute physical disqualification for the receiving of degrees shall be left, as the moral and other necessary qualifications are, with the several subordinate Chapters.”

This is opening the door to innumerable evils, and we may next expect to hear that, in Ohio, Masonic missionaries have been appointed to go out to the infirmaries and hospitals to hunt up the lame, the halt, and the blind to drag them in, or lead them in, or carry them in, to fill our Chapters and give us numerical strength.

Companion CARSON, however, is not alone, for we find the following in a Michigan paper:—

“Independent Eclectic Lodge of F. and A. M., will hold special communication at their hall, No. 180 Woodward Avenue, on Friday evening, at 7:30 o'clock. R. J. LORANGER, Secretary, T. S. This is the only Lodge where those who have lost a limb in the late war, and others who are maimed, can receive all the rights and benefits of true Masonry, and it is in accordance with the spirit of the age in which we live.”

It is true that this emanates from one of the Lodges established by a noted individual by the name of CZAR JONES, who was long since expelled from Masonry, and he and his followers who pretend to hold Masonic Lodges have been declared clandestine by the Grand Lodge of Michigan. But what of that? Haven't they as good a right to disregard expulsion as Companion CARSON has to disregard landmarks, regulations, and time-honored customs?

We give below an extract from the new Masonic Ritual now in course of preparation by the distinguished Masonic scholar, author, and jurist, Companion E. T. CARSON:—

Come hither, all ye lame and blind,
Millennial times to view;
Whate'er ye ask ye shall receive,
While CARSON puts you through.

Ye sightless orbs with rapture wink,
At wonders soon to be;
Through CARSON's "specs" of magic power
The "mystic light" ye'll see.

Ye lame and halt, come hobbling up,
Let CARSON's crutch assist you,
The Chapter doors shall open wide,
The Tyler shan't resist you.

The deaf and dumb a friend have found,
They need not hear or speak,
The "work" by "signs" will CARSON do,
And "mark" them on each cheek.

The sick man on his bed of pain
With chilly pangs to shake him,
Through CARSON's aid may "pass the veil,"
By "proxy" he will "make" him.

* Mr. Printer-man, be sure that you put an "s" in that name, for we never want to hear of a Corson doing such an outlandish act.—REPORTER.

The "ancient landmarks," CARSON says,
 Were written by an ass;
 The "regulations" are a bore,
 Just let them go to grass.
 He'll give to all, both great and small,
 (Lame, halt, and blind, send in your call,)
 The Mason's wondrous "pass."

Then come along and join the throng,
 We'll give fraternal greeting
 To every man whoever can
 Make out to reach our meeting;
 No eyes or ears are needed now
 For "sign" or "word" receiving;
 No legs or arms to file in rank,
 But simply "trunk" without a shank,
 So CARSON says, and he's the law,
 (Whoever doubts best hold his jaw,)
 In him we're all believing.

On the representative system he discourses as follows, and we heartily endorse his views. In his review of Massachusetts, and in answer to Comp. DADMUN, who opposes the system, he says:—

Now we *do* approve of the appointment of representatives from one Grand Chapter to the associate Grand Bodies, and we believe that much good will result therefrom. It is an additional tie of friendship and affection between those Grand Bodies, and even if it could do no good (which we do not admit), it could do no harm; and when Comp. DADMUN shall receive the appointment from some Grand Chapter, he will at least know that that particular Grand Chapter has recognized his ability as a Mason, and his worth as a man, and has taken this means to honor him. And even if the title of a Representative is merely ornamental, there is a pleasure in it to the wearer. If we were to send a letter addressed "JOHN W. DADMUN," without any "Rev." to precede, or "Esq." to follow the name, he would think that we were disrespectful and discourteous to him; and yet, what do these titles actually amount to, after all?

There are so many good things in this report that we want to place before our readers, that it is difficult for us to tell where to stop; but all things must have an end, and so must Reports on Correspondence. Comp. CORSON, we heartily reciprocate all your kind wishes so generously expressed towards ourself, and hope we may soon have the pleasure of smoking that cigar with you in San Francisco.

The *M.: E.: T. H. R.* REDWAY was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R.: E.:* JOHN WOLVERTON was reelected Grand Secretary. Address: Trenton.

NEW YORK.

The seventy-fifth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of New York was held in the city of Albany, commencing on the sixth day of February, 1872, the *M.: E.:* REES G. WILLIAMS, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R.: E.:* CHRISTOPHER G. FOX being Grand Secretary. One hundred and seventy-five subordinate Chapters were represented at the opening.

The Grand High Priest delivered a good Address, and we particularly commend the opening portion as evidencing a proper appreciation of the high responsibility devolving upon him as one to whom the craft would naturally turn for counsel and guidance:

Protected by the care and blessing of our Father in Heaven, we are assembled after another year's experience to consult together for the good of Royal Arch Masonry, and I extend to you my personal and official greeting. I know that I may rely upon your sympathy when I assure you that on the very threshold of the task I am about to perform. I am awed by the consciousness that the eminent companions who have performed in other years this very duty before me, are now looking down from their holy places on high to witness our zeal in our work of love, and to beckon us on to constancy and to renewed activity and consecration. Who shall estimate the value they assign to the noble and sacred lessons of our sublime Institutions. Companions, shall we not be encouraged by the brightness of their example? Shall we be content with the beautiful ideal of Masonry, regardless of its conspicuous living embodiment? Can we lose sight of the fact that to exert its influence over others it

must first of all gain a complete ascendancy over ourselves? There is untold power in consistency, pre-eminently so in Masonry. Nor is there room for doubt that they so thought, believed and acted, who have finished their earthly course and are in the presence of the Lord Almighty above.

Dispensations were issued for the formation of four new Chapters. We notice one feature in the proceedings which meets our warm approbation—the bestowal of sundry charitable donations to widows and orphans of deceased companions. This is a practical application of the great principle which forms the foundation-stone of our Order, that other Grand Bodies would do well to imitate.

The Deputy Grand High Priest reports that he had visited thirty-seven Chapters, officially, and that the only contention he can find existing is “who can best work and best agree.”

The Grand Lecturer, in his report, makes the following cheerful assertion: “Probably at no period in the history of this Grand Chapter has Royal Arch Masonry occupied the exalted position it does at this time. The work throughout the jurisdiction is uniform, and harmony prevails.”

Fifty-two companions were consecrated and set apart to the office of High Priest.

The Report on Correspondence is again presented by Comp. JOSEPH WHITE, and, like all we have seen from his pen, is a courteous, faithful and interesting paper. He reviews the transactions of thirty-six Grand Chapters and the General Grand Chapter of the United States. California, for 1871, receives fraternal notice at his hands. He praises the report of our predecessor and the action of the Grand High Priest in the matter of *Donner* Chapter. We were sorry to read the concluding portion of the report, viz.:

The present Report is the sixteenth which we have had the honor to present to this Grand Chapter. We cannot have hoped to give satisfaction to all; but we flatter ourselves, from the repeated appointments upon the Committee of Correspondence, that our humble efforts have not been wholly without your approbation. We have honestly endeavored to give a plain but faithful account of the doings of other Grand Chapters of such matters as were of general interest to the Royal Craft, and particularly of such rulings and decisions upon questions of Masonic law as differed from our own. We claim to have acted conscientiously in our labors; and now, having passed the age allotted to man, “three score years and ten,” we leave the labors of the future to younger and abler hands. Our prayers will henceforth be, as in the past, for the Masonic Fraternity—in union and harmony, “now and forever, one and inseparable.”

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were both reelected. Address of Grand Secretary: Buffalo.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The Grand Chapter of North Carolina held its twenty-fourth Annual Convocation in the city of Wilmington, commencing on the third day of June, 1872, the M.: E.: JOHN NICHOLS, Grand High Priest, presiding, the R.: E.: THOMAS B. CARR being Grand Secretary. Twelve Chapters were represented at the opening.

The Grand High Priest, in his Address, recommended that the Grand Chapter renew its allegiance to the General Grand Chapter, and the committee to whom was referred that portion of the address, reported as follows:—

Your committee, to whom was referred that portion of the Address of the M.: E.: Grand High Priest, relating to the General Grand Chapter of the United States, beg leave to report that they have had it under consideration and heartily approve the same, and hereby recommend that the annexed resolution, passed at the last Grand Convocation, be acted upon and passed as a finality, and that this Grand Chapter resume its relations with the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and the Grand Secretary instructed to notify the General Grand Secretary of this action.

We further recommend that a Special Committee be appointed to revise the By-Laws and Constitution of this Grand Chapter so as to conform to the Constitution and By-Laws of the General Grand Chapter of the United States.

The resolution of 1871, referred to, is as follows:—

“Resolved, That the resolution adopted by this Grand Body in 1857, withdrawing

from the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter be, and the same is hereby repealed."

The financial affairs of this Grand Chapter are not yet in a healthy condition, and we fully endorse the remarks of the Grand High Priest, who, in administering a well deserved rebuke to those subordinates who were delinquent in the matter of dues, says: "It would be far more to the interests of Capitular Masonry to have a few *live, working, and paying* Chapters, than many *idle, non-paying* ones."

The Committee on Correspondence failed to present a report, owing to the illness of the Chairman. We hope for better luck next time.

The following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted, will, we fear, cause some unpleasantness among our brethren of North Carolina:—

WHEREAS, The M. W. Grand Lodge of Ancient and Accepted Masons of the State of North Carolina did, at the last Grand Annual Convocation of that body, adopt the following resolution, to-wit:

"*Resolved*, That the Masters of all Subordinate Lodges within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, be required within three months after the close of this Grand Lodge, to give notice to all non-affiliated Masons within their jurisdiction to connect themselves with some Lodge, and if after such notice they shall for twelve months fail to do so, said Subordinate Lodges shall expel such Masons from all the rights and privileges of Masonry."

AND WHEREAS, This Grand Chapter does hold such action to be in conflict with the most vital, cherished and long-established principles of the Masonic institution; that Masonry is free—that all must come of "their own free will and accord," who would connect themselves with it—that they may sever their connection therewith, when they have complied with all the requirements thereof, at their pleasure, and that no coercive measures should ever be adopted as an inducement for them to renew the same; that Masons bound to the Lodge by the terrors of the Inquisition, are not only useless as members, but may, and doubtless would, destroy the harmony and good-fellowship thereof, and jeopardize its very existence; and,

WHEREAS, There are thousands of zealous, true, valuable and highly-esteemed members of our Chapters, who are, for good and valid reasons, perhaps, not members of any Lodge, or living within reach of one, who would, by this edict of our Grand Lodge, if enforced against them, be necessarily expelled from all the rights and privileges of Royal Arch Masonry; therefore, be it

Resolved, That while this Grand Chapter esteems it a duty of all Masons to be members of the Lodge, it admits that there may be many good and legitimate reasons, governing individual Masons, justifying their action in remaining unaffiliated; and that a crusade against non-affiliants will most assuredly recoil upon the institution; that the demon of anti-Masonry will be aroused, and, with thousands of recruits from our own camp, will strike a blow that may be more disastrous to our Order than anything that has yet befallen it.

Resolved, further. That this Grand Royal Arch Chapter does most respectfully, but earnestly, appeal to the M. W. Grand Lodge to rescind the said resolution at her next ensuing Grand Annual Convocation.

Resolved, further, That a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolutions be forwarded to the Secretary of the M. W. Grand Lodge, with the request that it be laid before that body at the aforesaid Grand Convocation.

We have before expressed our opinion somewhat freely upon the question of non-affiliation; we believe it to be the duty of every Mason to be a member of some Lodge. If he cannot afford to pay dues to both Lodge and Chapter, he should honorably withdraw from the Chapter and discharge his obligations to the Lodge. If a man is unable to indulge in the luxuries of life, he should do his best to provide the necessities. The Lodge is the foundation of the whole Masonic Edifice; remove the foundation and what becomes of the superstructure? It is by no means necessary, in order to carry out the great fundamental principles of Masonry, that a man should be a Royal Arch Mason, or if he is one, that he should be a member of a Chapter—that is a matter of taste or convenience; but it is necessary that he should be a member of some Lodge, that he may bear his portion of the labor and responsibility incident to the Masonic relation, and not strive to shield himself beneath the quasi dignity of the so-called higher degrees.

We believe if every Grand Lodge would pass a resolution similar to the one adopted by North Carolina it would be better for the Order, for it would weed out the drones, and only the active, working, producing members would remain. We do not apprehend or fear any of the dire results alluded to in the resolutions of the Grand Chapter. If compelling Masons to do their duty is going to "arouse the demon of anti-Masonry," the sooner that devil is stirred up the better; the days of bigotry and superstition have passed away when Masonry could be injured by such opposing influences. We have tried the experiments in California for years which the Grand Lodge of North Carolina now seeks to inaugurate, and it works admirably. We venture to predict that, if the resolution of the Grand Lodge is faithfully adhered to, the Order may date a new era of prosperity in North Carolina from its passage.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were both reelected. Address of Grand Secretary: Wilmington.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The third Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia was held in the city of Halifax, on the fourth day of June, 1872, the *M. E. S. R. SIRCUM*, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E. JAMES GOSSIP* being Grand Secretary.

Four subordinate Chapters, being all in the jurisdiction, were represented.

The Grand High Priest reports their relations with foreign Grand Chapters to be of the most friendly and satisfactory character. He announces the sad intelligence of the death of Comp. *JOSEPH CONWAY BROWN*, Grand King—who last year presented a most interesting and valuable Report on Correspondence—and says of him:

"He leaves behind him a Masonic record that will exist when no trace of his mortal form shall be visible, and the result of his exertions toward the advancement of Royal Arch Masonry in particular, must have a marked and lasting endurance."

Of the Representative system, he says:—

The Representative system being now generally adopted, and believing the principle productive of much good, I beg to present for your approval, in accordance with the Constitution, the following appointments.

He then appoints Representatives near ten Grand Chapters, and among them we notice the name of Comp. *CHARLES MARSH* as Representative near the Grand Chapter of California.

The Grand Secretary presents the Report on Correspondence, in which he reviews in a fraternal spirit the transactions of thirty-one Grand Chapters, the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and the "Grand Lodge of Mark Masons of England." California for 1871 receives a friendly notice.

The Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia appears now to be established upon a firm and permanent basis, and we believe has been recognized by every Grand Chapter except that of Scotland. We regret that the Grand Chapter of Scotland should persist in this course: the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia being an established fact and universally recognized as such, any further opposition on the part of Scotland would seem to exhibit a wanton and uncalled-for degree of perversity. One dispensation was issued for the formation of a new Chapter. The four chartered Chapters and one under dispensation have an aggregate membership of 189.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were both reelected. Address: Halifax.

OREGON.

The twelfth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Oregon was held in the city of Salem, commencing on the twenty-first day of June, 1872, the *M. E. JAMES R. BAYLEY*, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E. R. P. EARHART* being Grand Secretary. Five subordinate Chapters were represented at the opening.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is brief, and confined to matters of local interest. He had granted one dispensation for the formation of a new Chapter, and

had visited all the Chapters in the jurisdiction, save one. He had also appointed Representatives near the Grand Chapters of Connecticut and Vermont.

The report of the Grand Treasurer shows a balance in the Treasury of \$320 50.

The Committee on Grievance reported that no cause of grievance existed.

A resolution was adopted appropriating the sum of ten cents per annum for each Royal Arch Mason borne upon the rolls of the Subordinate Chapters, to assist in defraying the expenses of the General Grand Chapter. As the General Grand Chapter asks only for one cent for each member, our companions have shown their generosity by voting ten times as much as they were asked to do. May they receive a ten-fold reward.

Comp. T. McF. PATTON again presents the Report on Correspondence, in which he reviews the proceedings of thirty Grand Chapters, and also those of the General Grand Chapter. California, for 1871, receives fraternal attention. On the substitute question, he says: "The thing is dead, and new questions must be agitated or our reports will be materially reduced."

The thing may be dead, and emit a bad odor, but, like Banquo's Ghost, it will not down, but has made its appearance in nearly all the Grand Chapters for action during the past year. The corpse was revived by the General Grand Chapter, and each jurisdiction can decide for itself as to whether they will entertain it or not. In his review of Canada, Comp. PATTON says:—

Comp. ROBERTSON approves of the action of Georgia, of "dropping from the roll" members who are in arrears for dues, and says "he would like to see the practice of suspending for non-payment of dues abrogated in this jurisdiction." This "drop" game is too light. When a companion *can* pay his dues and *won't*, we go in for coercing him by presenting formal charges and requiring him to answer thereto, or abide by the consequences. If, on the other hand, a companion is willing to pay, and cannot, we would favor remitting them at once, upon a proper showing of the facts.

We believe in one law and one penalty for all who refuse or neglect to pay their dues; this preferring formal charges against delinquents takes too much time and incurs too much expense. In this jurisdiction no Mason can be expelled for the non-payment of his dues, but if for a period of six months he refuses or neglects to pay them, he is notified of his delinquency by the Secretary, and if his dues are not paid at the next stated meeting thereafter, the law says he *shall* be suspended, unless, for special reasons shown, the Lodge shall otherwise direct.

Comp. PATTON writes an excellent report, and we would be glad to quote more extensively from it, but time presses, and we must hasten our report to a conclusion.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were both reelected. Address of Grand Secretary: Salem.

PENNSYLVANIA.

The pamphlet containing the transactions of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, as usual, records the proceedings of the Quarterly and Annual Convocations, the latter having been held in the city of Philadelphia on the twenty-seventh day of December, 1871, the *M. E.* MICHAEL NISBET, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* JOHN THOMSON being Grand Secretary.

At the Quarterly Convocation, held February 2d, 1871, the following resolution was adopted:—

Resolved, That it is the undoubted right of any member to object at any time to the advancement of a candidate before receiving the degree in a Mark Lodge, or the first degree applied for in a Chapter. That upon such objection being made in open Lodge or Chapter, the Worshipful Master or High Priest shall not proceed in conferring the degree upon said applicant so objected to. That upon an objection being made, the Master or High Priest shall order the same to be entered upon the minutes. That such objection shall be deemed a rejection, and the candidate can not be advanced until such objection is removed.

The same rule prevails in this jurisdiction. We are sorry to observe that, at a subsequent Quarterly Convocation held on the third day of August, 1871, the following preamble and resolution were adopted:—

WHEREAS, The Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania has received from the General Grand Chapter of the United States a request to send delegates to the Triennial Convocation to be held in Baltimore in September next, as a Committee of Conference to arrange terms of union, if practicable, with the General Grand Chapter ;

AND WHEREAS, This Grand Chapter can not see the advantages to be derived from any such union, but, on the contrary, many disadvantages :

Therefore, be it *Resolved*, That the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania most fraternally decline to send such delegates as are requested.

The Grand Mark Lodge of England was recognized at the Quarterly Convocation held on the third day of November, 1871.

The address of the Grand High Priest, delivered at the Annual Convocation, is confined principally to a record of his official acts, the list being a long one and showing the position to have been no sinecure. He reports the number of companions, in actual membership, to be six thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight, in 1870, an increase of five hundred and eighty in that year ; and that a balance of \$1,405 15, with interest due and uncollected of \$485 45. The number of Chapters in this jurisdiction is eighty ; also, three Mark Lodges, and, with few exceptions, all were prosperous and harmonious. He had procured the likenesses of twenty-seven Past Grand High Priests, three Past Grand Treasurers and three Past Grand Secretaries. He reports the death of Past Grand High Priest WILLIAM BURGER, and says "He was one of the few who stood firmly by the Fraternity in the days when anti-Masonry was rampant, and, through his efforts, the existence of many Lodges was maintained which otherwise would have been swept away before the storm.

M. E. CHARLES EUGENE MEYER, having been elected Grand High Priest at the preceding Quarterly Convocation, delivered an interesting address. The following, relating to the early history of Royal Arch Masonry in Pennsylvania, will be read with interest :—

The early history of Royal Arch Masonry in Pennsylvania is, no doubt, intimately connected with a Chapter or Chapters worked by officers of the British army, stationed in Philadelphia, about the middle of the last century. It will be found by reference to the reprint of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter, that Lodge No. 3 claims the honor of having, as far as known, the oldest records of the Royal Arch degree in this country, its records dating back as far as 1767. In 1795 the great innovator, THOMAS SMITH WEBB, and a few others from the New England States, made strenuous efforts to form a Grand Chapter in Pennsylvania ; owing, however, to the influence of many members of the Grand Lodge, they were not successful, and the very object they tried to accomplish was carried out by the Royal Arch Masons of Pennsylvania in forming a Grand Chapter, subordinate, however, to the Grand Lodge.

A few years after this, in 1797, a Grand Chapter of the Northern States of America was formed by WEBB and his coadjutors. The present General Grand Chapter of the United States was not formed until 1806, at which time, if we are not mistaken, they first claimed jurisdiction over the Past Master's so-called degree.

In 1820 the members of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania endeavored to make the Grand Chapter an independent body, not subordinate to or under any control of the Grand Lodge. This movement was strenuously opposed by many distinguished Masons, led by Brother JOSIAH RANDALL, more particularly on account of the intended incorporation of the degree of Most Excellent Master. To the Mark Master's degree there appears to have been not so much objection, as Brother RANDALL and others had previously received it, but how or where we have not been able to learn.

After a series of motions, pro and con, on the 17th day of December, 1824, the Grand Chapter became independent, and from that time Royal Arch Masonry has prospered in this jurisdiction.

We fully concur in the following :—

Within a few years a custom has grown up in Subordinate Chapters and Mark Lodges, and even in the Grand Chapter, of introducing what is termed Parliamentary Usage in the government of the Chapter. Such motions as to "lay upon the table," "indefinitely postpone," "the previous question," etc., when offered for the sole purpose of stopping debate and killing the subject matter under consideration, are, most undoubtedly, unmasonic, and should not be tolerated.

The High Priest has discretionary powers vested in him to decide when the debate is to cease and the question to be taken. He is bound to govern his Chapter

with justice, equity and prudence, allowing the youngest member the fullest privilege of the oldest, ever remembering that the peace and harmony of the Chapter has been confided to his hands. No question should be taken until the fullest and freest debate has been allowed.

The Report on Correspondence is again from the pen of Comp. GEO. GRISCOM, who reviews the transactions of twenty-nine Grand Chapters, briefly, but courteously, and in a fraternal spirit. California, for 1871, receives kindly mention.

The R. E. JOHN THOMSON was reelected Grand Secretary. Address: Masonic Temple, Chestnut street, Philadelphia.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The Grand Chapter of South Carolina met in Annual Convocation in the city of Charleston on the thirteenth day of February, 1872—the M. E. JAMES A. HOYT, Grand High Priest, presiding, the R. E. AUGUSTINE T. SMYTHE being Grand Secretary. Twenty-seven subordinate Chapters were represented at the opening.

The Grand High Priest, in his Address, reports that private duties had prevented him from visiting to any extent the subordinate Chapters, but that, so far as he is informed, entire harmony prevails throughout the jurisdiction, and nothing has occurred during the year to merit his official censure or reproof. The following words of caution are well timed and applicable to other jurisdictions than South Carolina:—

Masonry in general has been exceedingly popular, and the Capitular Degrees have been sought by hundreds. An anxiety to keep pace with this general progression has induced a hasty growth of membership, and in many cases the zeal manifested at the threshold of our sacred tabernacle has expired with the completion of the ritualistic usages. The candidate has received the degrees in such an informal and hurried manner, that he has failed to imbibe the glorious principles which lie buried beneath our symbolisms; and after a few visits to the Chapter, where he witnesses similar attempts upon others, he drops away altogether from attendance, and becomes that nondescript character—an indifferent Mason. I appeal to you, my companions, to sustain the truthfulness of the picture, and that it has not been overdrawn. But, allow me to repeat, the time has arrived to look at these matters soberly and seriously. The surge of popularity has measurably receded, and among the older Chapters of this jurisdiction, especially, a vast amount of material has been exhausted, and many Royal Arch Masons are numbered among the non-affiliated. As the tide ebbs and flows, so we may confidently expect that the present almost lethargic condition of many Chapters will not continue, and that another wave will bear along numberless applications for the Capitular Degrees. Such being the case, it is a propitious time to recommend remedial measures, and I would earnestly urge upon the subordinate Chapters a closer scrutiny into the fitness of candidates, in the first place, and more careful exercise of patience in teaching the ritual. This topic might be profitably pursued yet further, but I trust the reflections already made will induce my companions to give it serious consideration.

He recommended the adoption of a resolution authorizing the use of substitutes, which was done, with a recommendation that the Chapters use full classes of actual candidates, "except in cases of emergency, for the best interest of Royal Arch Masonry." He reports the death of Past Grand High Priest ISAAC T. MARTIN, of Kentucky, and speaks of him as one who came to the relief of the Masons of South Carolina in their hour of need, and by his well timed charitable aid relieved the distress of the destitute and suffering of that jurisdiction. Suitable resolutions were adopted "*in memoriam*," and a mourning page in the proceedings is inscribed to his memory. He congratulates the Grand Chapter upon the amicable relations maintained by it towards all the Grand Chapters with which it is in correspondence; mentions the organization of the Grand Chapter of West Virginia, and recommends its official recognition. The Address is a good one and well repays perusal.

The Grand Secretary presented the Report on Correspondence, in which he gives an abstract of the transactions of thirty-five Grand Chapters, our own among the number. The report is ably written and the views of the writer are such as, in most instances, we can fully endorse. He speaks severely, and with justice, concerning the reports of a companion who, having retired from the position of correspondent, shall be nameless, but who, it appears to us, signally failed to appreciate or exhibit

those qualities of kindness and forbearance which should ever characterize the Masonic reporter. In his review of Georgia he thus criticises Comp. KELLOG's views as expressed in his eulogy upon Masonry, to which we took occasion to allude in our report of last year. Comp SMYTHE says:—

Masonry is not religion; and we but injure ourselves and our Order in claiming for it that high office which is filled only by the Christian religion. It is fitly called the "handmaid of religion;" and while its moral lessons and solemn ceremonies are well calculated to impress the mind, the whole aim and end of its teachings is embodied in the charge so oft repeated to the candidate to search the Bible, that Book of the Law in which *alone* we can find the key to unravel the mystery and give us true light and knowledge of God. Masonry can and does do much, but there is One only who can comfort us as we walk through the valley of the Death Shade—one faith alone upon which we must rest in that solemn hour, and while we are taught to *seek* it, yet we *have* it not, in Masonry. No! greatly as we reverence Masonry, we must gladly assert that there is an institution which can do more—*much more*.

In his review of Iowa for 1871, he takes the following ground in relation to non-affiliation. He says:—

The Grand High Priest decided, upon being asked the question, that the position of a member of a Chapter was not affected by affiliation or non-affiliation in the Blue Lodge. We differ with him in toto, and think it does seem anomalous that one with whom we can not sit in the Blue Lodge, which is the foundation and fountain of all Masonry, is yet to be received and welcomed in the Chapter. If he is not a Lodge Mason in good standing, he lacks a necessary element to good standing in the Chapter.

We concur. We are satisfied that in Comp. SMYTHE South Carolina has a worthy successor to Comp. BIRNIE in the reportorial chair. The more we read him the better we like him. "May his shadow grow nevertheless." We are going to trust that quotation, and defy CORSON and TAYLOR to gainsay us. We think it is from the Koran, but it might be from HOMER's History of Ireland for all we know or care.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were both reelected. Address of the Grand Secretary; Charleston.

TENNESSEE.

The Grand Chapter of Tennessee assembled in Annual Convocation in the city of Nashville, on the fourth day of November, 1872, the M.: E.: A. J. WHEELER, Grand High Priest, presiding, the R.: E.: JOHN FRIZELL being Grand Secretary. Eighty-seven chartered Chapters and three under dispensation were represented at the opening.

The pamphlet containing the proceedings is a very handsome one, printed in good, clear type on tinted paper, and does credit to its compiler.

The Grand High Priest, we should judge from his Address, is eminently a practical man. We wonder what he would say if he lived in Massachusetts, where they think nothing of holding a dozen or so Convocations per annum. He says, in commencing his Address:

As the representatives of four thousand Companions in this State, you have again assembled in Annual Convocation to review the transactions of the past year, hold social and pleasant communion with each other, and if need be, make laws for future government. When I review the proceedings of this Grand Body for past years, and note the amount of business that was transacted necessary for the prosperity and peace of our Order, the question arises, Would it not be a great saving of expense, and as beneficial to our Order, to extend our convocations to biennial instead of annual sessions? Considering the saving of from one to three thousand dollars every year, the small amount of business necessary to transact for our continued prosperity, that returns could be required as regularly and promptly from subordinates as now, that should the dues from subordinate chapters not be reduced, the surplus funds of this Grand Body could be expended to much greater advantage than by paying yearly representations and other expenses connected therewith. All things considered, I must submit, that if annual convocations are necessary, it must be justified on the ground that social entertainment is the main object of yearly meetings. As all the teachings of Masonry are practical, I deem this a practical question for your consideration, and respectfully recommend that such action may be taken as may look to the amendment of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter on this point.

And again he walks into the Representative system rough shod. He evidently has very little respect for the high dignity and importance of a Grand Representative under the present system. He believes in putting them to practical use, and the idea is not a bad one. Suppose the writer should visit Tennessee on business or pleasure; he would naturally seek the acquaintance of companions or brothers in whom he could have confidence to aid him in his views.

Being unknown to all, in these days of imposition and rascality, a letter from the Representative of the Grand Chapter of Tennessee to any officer of that Grand Body might be of the greatest convenience and service. We believe the Representative system is calculated to bring about a closer fraternal relation between the several Grand Bodies, and we hope it will have a fair trial, but we hope the suggestion of Comp. WHEELER may find favor, and that the system may at once be made of some practical utility. He says:—

It may not be inappropriate here to make some remarks on the system of Grand Representation. The system as now conducted appears to be simply a social exchange of empty honors; an interchange of civilities between Grand Bodies that prescribes no duties, nor grants no powers; dummies marked with the names of the various grand jurisdictions that have appointed them. Could not the system be used for some good and practical purpose? Could not these representatives be required to make themselves familiar with the history, rules, regulations, and ritual of the grand jurisdiction they represent, and give us yearly a synopsis of the same in so far as they differed from our own? Could they not be made as ministers in charge of foreign affairs, and give passports as it were to companions that come from other jurisdictions to visit us, more especially if asking charities or privileges? Could they not be used as a means of better safeguard to our Order, and of improving our intellectual and Masonic standing; as now I submit to you the question, are they of any benefit to the Craft?

We cannot concur in the following decision:—

A Brother Master Mason, an active and zealous worker in the Blue Lodge, of excellent moral character and superior intellectual attainments, applied for, and was elected to receive the degrees in Penn Chapter, No. 22. This brother had lost his left leg, and the same had been supplied by an artificial one; in all things he could comply with the ceremonies of the degrees, and readily receive and impart all the instructions pertaining to our Order. I was asked, Could the brother receive the degrees? I replied that he could.

The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom the above was referred, reported as follows: “In regard to his decision that a Master Mason, with an artificial leg, could receive the Capitular degrees, we think that the usages and customs of R. A. Masonry are to the contrary.”

The Report on Correspondence is again from the pen of Comp. GEORGE S. BLACKIE, who says: “We regret that we cannot say that we have received the proceedings of *all* the Grand Chapters of the world as we did last year.” He reviews the transactions of thirty-six of them, however, in a very pleasant and satisfactory manner. California for 1872 is noticed briefly. Comp. BLACKIE believes in brief notices, evidently, as his whole report of the transactions of thirty-six Grand Chapters and of the General Grand Chapter occupies only some thirty-one pages.

The *M. E.* JOHN W. PAXTON was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* JOHN FRIZELL was reelected Grand Secretary. Address: Nashville.

TEXAS.

The Grand Chapter of Texas held its twenty-third Annual Convocation, in the city of Houston, on the 10th day of June, 1872, the *M. E.* J. B. JONES, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* R. BREWSTER being Grand Secretary. Forty-six subordinate Chapters were represented at the opening.

The Grand High Priest, in his Address, says:—

It should be a cause of congratulation to us all, that we are allowed the privilege of meeting under the present agreeable auspices, and enjoying the fraternal intercourse and social pleasures to which we have all looked forward with so many fond anticipations.

It affords me great pleasure to be able to report that the condition of Royal Arch Masonry is highly satisfactory; that there has been a steady and healthful growth of the Order since our last Convocation, and that, so far as I have been informed, no dissensions or trouble of a serious character have arisen in any of the Chapters in this jurisdiction.

He reports the death of Comp. WILLIAM M. TAYLOR, Past Grand High Priest, and pays a fraternal tribute to his memory. He calls attention to the necessity of correcting the forms for petitions and certificates of recommendation for new Chapters, as, at present printed, they are "only calculated to mislead the uninformed." Of six applications made to him for dispensations for new Chapters, only one was in accordance with the regulations of the Grand Chapter.

Some difficulty having transpired among the companions of a subordinate, the Grand High Priest authorized a worthy companion to convene the Chapter, investigate the questions at issue and report to him; but they "mocked the servant" of the Grand High Priest, and refused to be interviewed by him. He calls the attention of the Grand Chapter to this case of insubordination, but we cannot find that any action was taken in the premises. Several questions of law were decided by him, all of which were of local interest alone, except, perhaps, the following:—

Third—Neither the Grand Chapter nor the Grand High Priest has any control over the Order of High Priesthood in this State, and it is not necessary that it should be conferred upon the High Priest elect of a Chapter to qualify him for office, or enable him to preside over his Chapter and govern it correctly. I am not aware that it has ever been conferred in this State, except in Regular Council of the Order, which meets during the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter. And no one is entitled to the Order except Present or Past High Priests of Chapters, and they only after being balloted for and elected to receive the same. This is the rule in this State, though a different custom obtains in some jurisdictions.

The same rule prevails in this jurisdiction. There is no Report on Correspondence.

The M. E. NORTON MOSES was elected Grand High Priest, and the R. E. ROBERT BREWSTER was reelected Grand Secretary. Address: Houston.

VERMONT.

The Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Vermont was held in the city of Burlington on the 14th day of June, 1872, the M. E. EDWARD A. JEWETT, Grand High Priest, presiding, the R. E. W. H. S. WHITCOMB being Grand Secretary.

The Grand High Priest, in his address, congratulates the Royal Craft upon the state of prosperity which prevails within the jurisdiction. He announces the death of Past Grand High Priest BARZILLIA DAVENPORT, and gives a brief history of his life and Masonic career. Representatives were appointed near the Grand Chapters of New York and New Jersey. We note the following decisions:—

Can a Companion be elected High Priest of a Chapter without first having served either as King or Scribe?

Has a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons a right to confer the Past Master's degree upon a Master elect of a Lodge?

To the first question my decision was, that any companion in good standing in his Chapter was eligible to the office of High Priest.

To the second question I replied in the negative. No Chapter has any right to confer any of the degrees of Royal Arch Masonry upon any person, unless he shall have been elected in a regular manner, according to the general regulations of this Grand Chapter.

We concur.

He calls attention to the operations of two individuals, B. S. HILL and HARRY J. SEYMOUR (the latter being, he says, an expelled member of the Scottish Rite), who, claiming authority from the Grand Orient of France, who had been going about disseminating what they were pleased to term Masonic degrees, under the name of the "Ancient Primitive Rite of Memphis of thirty-three degrees." He also publishes a

letter from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Orient of France, in which he denounces as an impostor "any one who pretends to act in the name of the Grand Orient in the affairs of that Rite." We are somewhat curious to know if the aforesaid HARRY J. SEYMOUR was not formerly a resident of this jurisdiction.

The Committee on Correspondence not being ready with their report, they were directed to furnish it for publication with the proceedings, but no Report appears, and no explanation of its failure to connect. There are twenty-four Subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction, with an aggregate membership of one thousand six hundred and fifty-one.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were both reelected. Address: Burlington.

VIRGINIA.

The Grand Chapter of Virginia assembled in Annual Convocation in the city of Richmond, on the thirteenth day of December, 1871,—the *M. E.*: JOHN P. LITTLE, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.*: JOHN DOVE being Grand Secretary.

The Grand High Priest, in his Address, says:—

During the past twenty years there has been a wonderful revival of Royal Arch Masonry in Virginia. At the beginning of this period, the knowledge of these beautiful degrees was concentrated in a few places, and only possessed by a few persons. I could readily name the half dozen Masons in our jurisdiction who alone thoroughly possessed this knowledge, while now they may be counted by the hundred. Let this improvement continue; let the Light shine forth. By having the work illustrated at every meeting of the Grand Chapter, and by having a Grand Lecturer actively employed throughout our jurisdiction, we can soon have every Chapter well instructed, and a uniform system of perfect work prevailing within our limits.

He refers to the formation of the Grand Chapter of West Virginia, and recommends its recognition in the following fraternal terms:—

The most interesting event that has occurred during my term of office, has been the establishment of a Grand Chapter for West Virginia. Permission had been granted at our last Annual Convocation to organize such a Grand Chapter, and on November 16, 1871, delegates met in Wheeling representing five out of the seven Chapters within the limits of that State, formed a Convention, and elected officers for such a Grand Chapter. I was present by invitation, and, as Grand High Priest of Virginia, organized that Grand Chapter, and installed its officers. From the zeal displayed, and the spirit manifested by all the companions, as well as from the high character of the worthy officers elected, I am well assured that this Grand Body will be an honor and benefit to the cause of Royal Arch Masonry.

I recommend that, beside carrying out our intention of advising all Chapters within those State limits to connect themselves with this Grand Chapter of West Virginia, two other things be done:—

First. That the Chapters now under dispensation in West Virginia, be permitted, if the companions of those Chapters desire it, to return their dispensations, and receive charters from the Grand Chapter of West Virginia; and,

Secondly. That the dues for the past year of the several Chapters which have joined in this new organization, be paid over to the Grand Chapter of West Virginia.

It will be but a proper act of courtesy extended to our young brother; and my reason for advising it, is that there were many expenses attending this new formation, and of course this beginning is made with an empty treasury.

The committee to whom the address was referred cordially endorsed the recommendation of the Grand High Priest, and submitted a resolution recognizing the Grand Chapter of West Virginia, and directing those Chapters who had connected themselves with it, and who formerly owed allegiance to the Grand Chapter of Virginia, to pay all money due the latter Grand Chapter to the Grand Chapter of West Virginia, and also that whatever money had already been paid to the Grand Chapter of Virginia, by Chapters so situated, should be handed over to the new Grand Chapter.

This was a generous and kindly act, and worthy of all commendation. It shows that our companions of Virginia are actuated by the true spirit of Royal Arch Masonry.

Comp. WILLIAM B. ISAACS, Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, failed to present a report, and, for cause, sheweth the following lame excuse :—

He is again compelled, by force of circumstances, to throw himself on the indulgence of the Grand Chapter. His public duties and private engagements have been such constant and unceasing consumers of his time, by day and by night, as to prevent him from taking even a cursory glance over the proceedings with which he has been favored. As he advances in years his engagements appear to increase *pari passu*, and he would respectfully request the Grand Council to relieve him, at least for the present, from further service in this branch of the Royal Art, from which he, personally, has derived so much instruction and pleasure, without, he fears, making a corresponding return, either to this Grand Chapter or to his Companions of the "reportorial corps." In asking thus to be relieved, he would beg to say to his fellow-members of the "Mutual Admiration Society," that he has lost none of his zeal in their cause. While their criticisms have, at times, been severe, doubtless they were deserved; and he begs to return to them, collectively and individually, his thanks for the kindnesses and courtesies he has received at their hands.

If he should be again compelled to "throw himself upon the indulgence of the Grand Chapter," we hope said indulgence may be pointed enough to prick him up to his work, as we perceive that, notwithstanding his plea for exemption from duty, he was again appointed Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence.

Forty Chapters return an aggregate membership of one thousand eight hundred and forty-one.

The M.: E.: ROBERT E. WITHERS was elected Grand High Priest, and the R.: E.: JOHN DOVE was reelected Grand Secretary.

WEST VIRGINIA.

We have received the pamphlet containing the proceedings at the formation of this new Grand Chapter, and right cordially do we extend to her the right hand of fellowship and welcome. The reasons which induced this action on the part of our companions of West Virginia, are clearly set forth in the following statement :—

The interests of Royal Arch Masonry in West Virginia languished during the late war. There was no means of regular communication with the Grand Chapter at Richmond, and, one by one, many of the subordinate Chapters in West Virginia fell into decay. Without any central head or governing power; without any authority for meeting together and making such regulations as the cause of capitular Masonry seemed to require; it is not surprising that many errors and diversities crept into the ritual; that comparatively little work was done; and that the companions gradually ceased attendance upon the Convocations of the several Chapters.

After the formation of the State of West Virginia and when peace had been restored, efforts were made with good success by several of the Chapters in this State to rebuild their fallen altars; to relearn the ritual of the Royal Art; and to give a fresh impulse to the cause of Chapter Masonry. A heavy expense was incurred and much time was bestowed by many of the companions in learning the work, and in refitting their Chapter rooms and reorganizing their Chapters. But much of the difficulty arising from the lack of personal representation in the Grand Chapter of Virginia still remained. The sending of a delegate from most of the Chapters in West Virginia to the Grand Chapter at Richmond involved a journey of nearly one thousand miles, and the expense of such a delegate usually exceeded the amount of dues to be paid by the Chapter he was sent to represent. The civil and political relations which had subsisted between the people east and west of the Alleghany mountains in Virginia had been severed, and there was very little commercial intercourse between the city of Richmond and the people of West Virginia, except in a few counties in the southern portion of the new State. A representative to either of the Masonic Grand bodies holding their sessions in Richmond was therefore compelled to visit that city upon that mission alone, there being no other public or personal business to induce the journey. The companions in West Virginia were thus required by the circumstances of their situation to submit to the alternative of paying pretty heavily for the expenses of a delegate to the Grand Chapter, or of depriving themselves of their proper voice in the counsels of the craft and of all participation in the pleasures and benefits of the Annual Convocation.

The best motives and kindest feelings seem to have prevailed among all who were directly interested in the formation of this Grand Chapter. No cause of offense was

given to the Grand Chapter of Virginia, but an honest, manly, straightforward memorial was sent to that Grand Body setting forth the facts, and its full and free consent was obtained.

Accordingly a Convention was held in the city of Wheeling, on the 16th day of November, 1871, five Chapters being represented, when the Grand Chapter of West Virginia was organized in due form by the election of the *M. E.* THOMAS H. LOGAN, Grand High Priest, the *R. E.* FRANK REX, Grand King, the *R. E.* LLEWELLYN A. LUCE, Grand Scribe, the *R. E.* ELIJAH DAY, Grand Treasurer, and the *R. E.* ODELL S. LONG, Grand Secretary.

The Convention then adjourned, and the First Grand Convocation of the Grand Chapter was held on the same day, the *M. E.* THOS. H. LOGAN, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* ODELL S. LONG being Grand Secretary. The newly-elected Grand Officers were then installed by the *M. E.* JOHN P. LITTLE, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Virginia, who, after the ceremony, delivered an eloquent and able address, in which he gave the companions much good counsel and advice, and some that was not so good. We object to the following, and hope the new Grand Chapter will see it in a different light :—

One thing I warn you against, and that is the seductive influences which may induce you to become a member of the General Grand Chapter, for this will be to give up in part at least your sovereignty. It will divide your powers, interfere with your work by depriving you of the Council degrees, and render you a subordinate body.

We congratulate our companions of West Virginia upon the favorable auspices under which their efforts to organize a Grand Chapter have been consummated, and we doubt not that every Grand Chapter will at once extend to them a fraternal recognition.

WISCONSIN.

The Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Wisconsin was held in the city of Milwaukee, commencing on Tuesday, the sixteenth day of January, 1872,—the *M. E.* JOSEPH YATES, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* WILLIAM T. PALMER being Grand Secretary.

The Grand High Priest delivered a good Address, but confined entirely to matters of local interest and importance. The following resolution was adopted :—

Resolved, That voluntary non-affiliating in a Lodge, of over one year's continuance shall subject the companion to suspension from the Chapter, and his *status* during the further continuance of such non-affiliation with a Lodge, shall be that of a companion suspended for non-payment of dues, and his restoration affected by again becoming affiliated.

The Report on Correspondence was presented by Comp. J. P. C. COTRILL. It is one of the most readable reports which has been placed in our hands. He carefully reviews the proceedings of thirty-five Grand Chapters, and those of the General Grand Chapter—being all, he says, with whom they are in correspondence, save Arkansas and Texas. California for 1871 receives her full share of notice. He says of us :—

All the business of this Grand Chapter appears to have been promptly and efficiently done, except that we notice an ominous silence both as to the Grand Treasurer and Grand Chapter funds. All the names of the companions, whenever mentioned, are given in full. This practice would be quickly abolished if they were all "given in baptism" as many names as the writer was.

We would not allude to the first sentence of the above except to correct an evident misapprehension of facts on the part of the writer. Our worthy Grand Treasurer was in no wise responsible for the "ominous silence" alluded to. He alludes, in complimentary terms, to the report of our predecessor, and his comments on the following suit us exactly :—

He is surprised at the action of Alabama in 1869, in repealing their edict that a *M. M.*, suspended for non-payment of dues shall stand suspended as a *R. A. M.* ; and

thus pertinently and forcibly observes: "Not one of the members of the Grand Chapter, as Master Masons, could hold Masonic intercourse with a Master Mason suspended for any cause. If one of them presided over a Lodge of Masons, and a member suspended for non-payment of dues applied for admission, he would undoubtedly refuse the application; and we cannot understand how a R. A. Mason can sit in a Chapter with a companion whom he knew he could not sit with in a Lodge."

In commenting upon the above, he writes what GOULEY calls "words with the bark on:"—

The solution of this question seems clear enough. A Master Mason cannot hold Masonic intercourse with one who has been suspended or expelled, while under such sentence; if he cannot, a R. A. Mason cannot. It is immaterial why the suspension was made; the fact of suspension only can be regarded. In this jurisdiction a suspended M. M. cannot be admitted to a Chapter, nor can any companion hold Masonic intercourse with him. Non-payment of dues may be, and probably is, a *small* offence; but as it grows to smallness, it intensifies in meanness; and as it becomes intensely mean it also becomes egregiously unmasonic. Of course we mean here those who can, and will not pay. Let the dead-beats be weeded out, in all departments and by all lawful means.

We would gladly notice many good things in this most interesting report, but our copy must be in the printer's hands to-morrow, or rather to-day; for as CORSON says, the chickens are about calling from refreshment to labor—and we long to retire to the "arms of Morpheus."

CONCLUSION.

Thus we conclude our imperfect report of the transactions of the Royal Craft for another year. We have sought to lay before our companions those matters which we judged would be most interesting to them, and while we have endeavored to give the views of others rather than to express our own, we have not hesitated to comment freely upon the various decisions and constructions of Masonic law as they have passed in review before us. We congratulate our companions upon the prosperous condition of Royal Arch Masonry throughout the length and breadth of our land; from all quarters come to us the glad tidings of peace and prosperity; among all the Grand jurisdictions of our country there is perfect harmony; differences of opinion exist, it is true, but those differences are discussed in a spirit most kindly and forbearing, and we feel rejoiced to say, as we close our labor for the year, that in all the mass of Masonic literature that we have read and enjoyed in compiling this report, not one unkind or unmasonic word or expression is to be found; all seem to be animated by a desire to promote the general welfare of the Order, and to inculcate the true spirit of Masonry.

We desire to return our sincere thanks to our brother reporters who have so kindly noticed our first appearance in their ranks, and we hope our second effort may be as well received.

All which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,
For the Committee.

Which report was ordered to be printed with the proceedings.

On motion of Comp. ISAACS, the Grand Lecturer was requested to exemplify the work in the Mark, Past, and Most Excellent Master's degrees this evening at half-past seven o'clock.

The Grand Chapter was then called off until two o'clock this afternoon.

In Grand Chapter.

AFTERNOON SESSION,
Tuesday, April 8, A. I. 2403. }

The Grand Chapter was called on at two o'clock, the Grand High Priest presiding.

The minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

The Grand High Priest announced the following committees :—

On Finances :

Comp. Hiram Throop Graves,
" Henry Sayre Orme,
" Alex. Hopkins Hichborn,
" George Helru Gilbert,
" Thomas Callow.

On Returns :

Comp. Charles Louis Wiggin,
" William Thompson Luther,
" Melvin Syms Gardner,
" Adoniram Judson Loomis,
" James Martin Rodgers.

On Charters :

Comp. John William Harville,
" James Henry Hoadley,
" Richard Munt,
" John Ambrose Seely,
" Elias Anderson.

On Grievances :

Comp. William Abraham Davies,
" Charles Lewis Pond,
" Benjamin Franklin Myres,
" John Storer McBride,
" George Tuttle Grimes.

On By-Laws :

Comp. Theodore Edward Smith,
" John Riggs Crandall,
" John Ambrose Seely,
" Henry Hay Knapp,
" Elias Anderson.

On Payment of Delegates :

Comp. Alvin Bacon Preston,
" Wiley James Tinnin,
" Alfred Coolidge Waitt,
" Ambrose Hall Cowden,
" William Munroe Petrie.

The Grand High Priest announced the appointment of the following named companions to fill vacancies in the Committee on Jurisprudence :—

Comp. Thomas Hubbard Caswell,
" William Abraham Davies,
" John William Harville.

The Grand Secretary presented his Annual Report, as follows :—

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of California :—

The undersigned respectfully submits the following report of the transactions of the Grand Secretary's office during the year ending January 31st, 1873.

As soon as possible after the close of the last Annual Convocation, the proceedings thereat were printed and the usual number of copies was distributed to the Chapters, to the Grand and Past Grand Officers, and transmitted to all the Grand Chapters with which we are in communication.

By order of the Grand High Priest, dispensations were issued for the formation of three new Chapters, viz: October 24, 1872, to *Mount Carmel* Chapter, at Rough and Ready, Siskiyou County; March thirteenth, to *Santa Rosa* Chapter, at Santa Rosa, Sonoma County; and March twenty-fifth, to *Woodland* Chapter, at Woodland, Yolo County. *Visalia* Chapter having failed to send their records and dispensation to the Grand Secretary in time for the last Annual Convocation, owing to a misunderstanding on the part of the officers of said Chapter with regard to the time of holding the Annual Convocation, the dispensation was, by order of the Grand Chapter, continued for one year. The petitions for these dispensations, with the accompanying papers required by the Constitution, the record books, by-laws, and returned dispensations of *Visalia*, *Santa Rosa*, and *Woodland* Chapters, together with the petitions for their perpetuation by charter, are herewith submitted. The undersigned is informed by the High Priest of *Mount Carmel* Chapter that, owing to various causes, that Chapter has not yet been organized, and they respectfully ask that their dispensation be continued for another year.

The following special dispensations have been issued by order of the Grand High Priest, viz: July 11th, 1872, to *Temple* Chapter, No. 41, to elect a High Priest; September 27th, 1872, to *Solano* Chapter, No. 43, to re-ballot on the petition of REUEL D. ROBBINS; October 14th, 1872, to *Donner* Chapter, No. 39, to re-ballot on the petition of C. F. GLASHAN; January 21st, 1873, to *Santa Cruz* Chapter, No. 38, to elect officers; and six special dispensations to *Woodland* Chapter, U. D., to ballot upon petitions for degrees without reference to a committee.

On the tenth day of May, 1872, the undersigned was authorized by the M.: E.: Grand High Priest to constitute *Solano* Chapter and install its officers, but owing to sundry causes the ceremony was postponed until the eighteenth day of December, when he visited the Chapter, constituted it in form, and installed its officers. *Quincy* Chapter, No. 32, having failed to make their returns to this Grand Body for two years, the members thereof were summoned by the Grand High Priest to attend a meeting to be held at Quincy on the first day of June, 1872, for the purpose of electing and installing their officers. Comp. CHARLES F. LOTT was authorized to preside at said meeting, and to install the officers elect. He performed the duty assigned him, and made due report of his acts to the Grand Secretary. *Quincy* Chapter has, however, again failed to make its returns to the Grand Chapter, and although the undersigned has twice written to the High Priest of said Chapter, no answer has been received.

The proceedings for 1871 complete the third volume of the Grand Chapter proceedings, and in order that the Chapters and those companions who desire to preserve full files of the proceedings may be supplied, one hundred copies have been bound and are for sale at the price prescribed by the Grand Chapter.

The following is a statement of the financial transactions of the Grand Secretary's office for the past year:—

The Grand Secretary in account with the Grand Chapter of California, for the year ending January 31st, 1873.

RECEIPTS.

<i>San Francisco</i>	Chapter, No. 1,	dues in full to Jan. 31st, 1873, ..	\$286 00
<i>Sonora</i>	" " 2, " " " "	.....	100 00
"	" " 2, " " " "	Jan. 31st, 1872, ..	118 00
<i>Sacramento</i>	" " 3, " " " "	Jan. 31st, 1873, ..	319 00
<i>California</i>	" " 5, " " " "	.....	496 00
<i>Nevada</i>	" " 6, " " " "	.....	117 00
<i>Shasta</i>	" " 9, " " " "	.....	94 00
<i>Sutter</i>	" " 11, " " " "	.....	141 00
<i>Calaveras</i>	" " 12, " " " "	.....	72 00
<i>Washington</i>	" " 13, " " " "	.....	245 00
<i>Howard</i>	" " 14, " " " "	.....	180 00
<i>Cyrus</i>	" " 15, " " " "	.....	73 00
<i>Saint James</i>	" " 16, " " " "	.....	72 00
<i>Libanus</i>	" " 17, " " " "	.....	56 00
<i>Grass Valley</i>	" " 18, " " " "	.....	170 00
<i>Trinity</i>	" " 19, " " " "	.....	36 00
<i>Franklin</i>	" " 20, " " " "	.....	81 00
<i>Sierra</i>	" " 21, " " " "	.....	82 00
<i>Petaluma</i>	" " 22, " " " "	.....	135 00
<i>Oliver</i>	" " 23, " " " "	.....	70 00
<i>La Fayette</i>	" " 24, " " " "	.....	41 00
<i>Georgetown</i>	" " 25, " " " "	.....	84 00
<i>Delta</i>	" " 27, " " " "	.....	52 00
<i>Stockton</i>	" " 28, " " " "	.....	177 00
<i>Manzanita</i>	" " 29, " " " "	.....	132 00
<i>Napa</i>	" " 30, " " " "	.....	82 00
<i>Martinez</i>	" " 31, " " " "	.....	65 00
<i>Los Angeles</i>	" " 33, " " " "	.....	140 00
<i>Alturas</i>	" " 34, " " " "	.....	75 00
<i>Naval</i>	" " 35, " " " "	.....	136 00
<i>Alameda</i>	" " 36, " " " "	.....	198 00
<i>Siloam</i>	" " 37, " " " "	.....	64 00
<i>Santa Cruz</i>	" " 38, " " " "	.....	68 00
<i>Donner</i>	" " 39, " " " "	.....	133 00
<i>Red Bluff</i>	" " 40, " " " "	.....	75 00
<i>Temple</i>	" " 41, " " " "	.....	100 00
<i>Ohico</i>	" " 42, " " " "	.....	157 00
<i>Solano</i>	" " 43, " " " "	.....	76 00
<i>Visalia</i>	" U. D., " " Jan. 31st, 1872, ..	.....	76 00
"	" U. D., " " Jan. 31st, 1873, ..	.....	66 00
<i>Solano</i>	" No. 43, fee for charter, ..	.....	50 00
<i>Santa Rosa</i>	" U. D., fee for dispensation, ..	.....	75 00
<i>Woodland</i>	" U. D., fee for dispensation, ..	.....	75 00
"	" U. D., dues in full to April 1st, 1873, ..	.....	56 00
<i>Mount Carmel</i>	" U. D., fee for dispensation, ..	.....	75 00
Received for seventeen diplomas, ..			34 00
Received for eight bound volumes, ..			16 00
Received for ten special dispensations, ..			50 00
Making a total of, ..			\$5371 00

All which has been paid to the Grand Treasurer, as per his receipt herewith submitted. The books and vouchers for orders drawn upon the Grand Treasurer, and papers of the Grand Secretary's office, are herewith submitted for examination.

All which is respectfully submitted."

CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,
Grand Secretary.

Which report was referred to the Committee on Finances.

The Grand Treasurer presented his Annual Report, as follows :—

The Grand Treasurer in account with the Grand Chapter of California.

1872.	DR.		
April 9.	To balance in treasury this date,.....	\$3697 04	
1873.			
April 8.	To cash received from Grand Secretary,.....	5371 00	\$9068 04
1872.	CR.		
April 10.	Paid delegates in attendance at the Annual Convocation, as per pay roll,.....	883 00	
" 10.	" Grand Officers in attendance at Annual Convoca- tion, as per pay roll,.....	78 00	
" 15.	" Thomas Price Johnson, dispensation fee of <i>Visalia</i> Chapter, returned by order of the Grand Chap- ter, as per voucher No. 1,	90 00	
" 16.	" M. De LaBar, fitting room for records, as per voucher No. 2,.....	20 00	
" 30.	" Ira C. Root, Grand Guard, services, as per voucher No. 3,.....	35 00	
" 30.	" Wm. E. Moody, services as accountant, etc., as per voucher No. 4,.....	300 00	
" 30.	" Masonic Hall Association, rent to Dec. 31st, 1872, as per voucher No. 5	300 00	
May 4.	" Charles L. Wiggin, Grand Secretary, salary for April, 1872, as per voucher No. 6,.....	100 00	
June 13.	" A. L. Bancroft & Co., stationery, as per voucher No. 7,.....	11 25	
" 13.	" Charles L. Wiggin, Grand Secretary, salary for May, as per voucher No. 8,.....	100 00	
July 1.	" Charles L. Wiggin, Grand Secretary, salary for June, as per voucher No. 9,.....	100 00	
" 10.	" Frank Eastman, printing, as per voucher No. 10,..	674 00	
Aug. 1.	" Charles L. Wiggin, Grand Secretary, salary for July, as per voucher No. 11,.....	100 00	
Sept. 3.	" Charles L. Wiggin, Grand Secretary, salary for August, as per voucher No. 12,.....	100 00	
" 14.	" Alex. G. Abell, parchment, as per voucher No. 13,.	33 60	
" 18.	" Alta California, advertising, as per voucher No. 14,.	15 00	
Oct. 1.	" Charles L. Wiggin, Grand Secretary, salary for September, as per voucher No. 15,.....	100 00	
Nov. 1.	" Charles L. Wiggin, Grand Secretary, salary for October, as per voucher No. 16,.....	100 00	
Dec. 4.	" Charles L. Wiggin, Grand Secretary, salary for November, as per voucher No. 17,.....	100 00	
Amount carried forward,.....		\$3239 85	\$9068 04

Amount brought forward,		\$3239 85	\$9068 04
Dec. 25.	Paid S. W. Shaw, painting portrait of Past Grand High Priest James L. English, as per voucher No. 18,	75 00	
1873.			
Jan. 1,	" Charles L. Wiggin, Grand Secretary, salary for December, 1872, as per voucher No. 19,.....	100 00	
" 10,	" Frank Eastman, printing, as per voucher No. 20,..	54 50	
Feb. 1.	" Charles L. Wiggin, Grand Secretary, salary for January, 1873, as per voucher No. 21,.....	100 00	
" 2.	" J. B. McIntyre, binding proceedings, as per voucher No. 22,.....	103 00	
Mar. 1.	" Charles L. Wiggin, Grand Secretary, salary for February, 1873, as per voucher No. 23,.....	100 00	
" 31.	" Dues to General Grand Chapter, as per voucher No. 24,.....	20 13	
April 1.	" Charles L. Wiggin, Grand Secretary, salary for March, 1873, as per voucher No. 25,.....	100 00	
" 4.	" Expenses of Grand Secretary's office, as per voucher No. 26,.....	35 00	
		<hr/>	
		\$3927 48	
April 8.	Balance in treasury this date,.....	5140 56	
		<hr/>	
			\$9068 04

1873.

April 8. To balance,.....\$5140 56

I have also received from the Grand Secretary, and have in charge, certificate No. 548, for one hundred and fifty (150) shares of the stock of the Masonic Hall Association.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JOSEPH B. SCOTCHLER,
Grand Treasurer.

Which report was referred to the Committee on Finances.

Comp. WILLIAM ABRAHAM DAVIES, from the special committee to whom was referred the Address of the Grand High Priest, presented the following report:—

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California:—

Your committee, to whom was referred the Address of the M.: E.: Grand High Priest, in the performance of their duties have examined the very interesting address presented by that officer, and submit their views to the Grand Chapter.

First. We congratulate the Grand Chapter upon its nineteenth assemblage in full health and vigor; and with our congratulations for its past prosperity we express the fervent hope that its crowning glories are reserved for its future years.

Second. We find, upon an examination of the official acts of our executive head, that he has faithfully performed the duties of his high office, and that, in the discharge of those duties, he has been governed by a wise discretion, always having in view the honor and reputation of Royal Arch Masonry. We say to you, companions, that during your recess he has represented you faithfully and well.

In the appointment of Comp. THOMAS H. CASWELL as Grand Lecturer, he has met the want of the new Chapters acceptably and as it could not have been met by any other appointment. In the constitution of new Chapters, in the issuing of dispensations, he has observed the law and the requirements of our Constitution.

In the matter of the disqualification of the High Priest of *Temple* Chapter, No. 41, we indorse his action to the fullest extent. Your committee would have no High Priest upon our roll who is neither a member of, nor contributing to the support of a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons ; for, while tracing our genealogy, we are especially desirous that the ancient and honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons be not forgotten—from whose honored ranks we are proud to have sprung and upon whose broad base we plant the columns of the Holy Royal Arch.

In regard to the recommendation of our *M. E.* Companion concerning the salary of the Grand Lecturer and his being required to visit the Chapters at least once in each year, we only say we heartily concur in the expressed wish ; but believing that this, with all other matters pertaining to work and its teaching, is properly in the hands of another committee appointed at the last Annual Session (see page 91, Procs. last year), we refrain from making any recommendations upon the subject.

We therefore recommend that so much of the Address as refers to the issuance of dispensations and the constitution of Chapters be referred to the Committee on Charters ;

And so much as refers to the disqualification of the High Priest of *Temple* Chapter, No. 41, and the action of the Grand High Priest thereon, be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence ;

To the Committee on By-Laws, so much as relates to sundry amendments of By-Laws of various Chapters ;

And so much as refers to finance be referred to the Committee on Finance.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. A. DAVIES,
HENRY HAY KNAPP, } Committee.
A. J. LOOMIS,

Which report was concurred in.

The Grand Secretary presented the petition of OLIVER BATES WESTCOTT, heretofore suspended for non-payment of dues by *El Dorado* Chapter, No. 4, now extinct, praying for restoration, and, on motion, his dues were remitted, and he was restored to all the rights and privileges of Royal Arch Masonry.

The Grand Chapter was then called off until this evening at 7½ o'clock.

In Grand Chapter.

EVENING SESSION,
Tuesday, April 8th, A. I. 2403. }

The Grand Chapter was called on at 7½ o'clock, the Grand High Priest presiding.

The work and lectures in the Mark, Past, and Most Excellent Masters' degrees were exemplified by the Grand Lecturer.

The Grand Chapter was then called off until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

In Grand Chapter.

MORNING SESSION,
Wednesday, April 9th, A. I. 2403. }

The Grand Chapter was called on at 10 o'clock, the Grand High Priest presiding.

The minutes of the sessions of yesterday afternoon and evening were read and approved.

Comp. JOHN W. HARVILLE, from the Committee on Charters, presented the following report :—

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California :—

Your Committee on Charters, to whom were referred the record books of *Visalia*, *Santa Rosa*, and *Woodland* Chapters, U. D., together with the petitions for their perpetuation by charters, have carefully examined the records of said Chapters and find them kept in strict accordance with the requirements of the Constitution.

The petitioners having fully complied with the law and regulations, we respectfully submit the following resolutions and recommend their adoption :—

Resolved, That charters be granted to *Visalia* Chapter, at Visalia, Tulare county, *Santa Rosa* Chapter, at Santa Rosa, Sonoma county, and *Woodland* Chapter, at Woodland, Yolo county, and that they be numbered in accordance with the date of their dispensations.

Resolved, That the dispensation to *Mount Carmel* Chapter, at Rough and Ready, Siskiyou county, be continued until the next Annual Convocation.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN W. HARVILLE, JAMES H. HOADLEY, RICHARD MUNT, JOHN AMBROSE SEELY, ELIAS ANDERSON,	}	Committee.
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Which report was received and concurred in, and the resolutions accompanying it were adopted.

Comp. THEODORE E. SMITH, from the Committee on By-Laws, presented the following report :—

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California :—

Your committee, to whom were referred the amendments to the By-Laws of *California* Chapter, No. 5, *Washington* Chapter, No. 13, *Martinez* Chapter, No. 31, *Naval* Chapter, No. 35, *Temple* Chapter, No. 41, *Chico* Chapter, No. 42, and *Salinas* Chapter, No. 43, approved by the M.: E.: Grand High Priest, respectfully report that they have examined the same and find they relate principally to fees and dues ; that all conform to the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, and would recommend that they be approved.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

THEODORE E. SMITH, JOHN RIGGS CRANDALL, JOHN AMBROSE SEELY, HENRY HAY KNAPP, ELIAS ANDERSON,	}	Committee.
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Which report was concurred in.

Comp. CHARLES L. WIGGIN, from the Committee on Returns, presented the following report :—

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California :—

The undersigned respectfully report that returns from the following Chapters have been received, that they are in all respects correct, and in most instances well and carefully prepared, and that the dues of each are as set opposite their respective names :—

		Gen.	Rep.			Gen.	Rep.	
		Fund.	Fund.	Total.		Fund.	Fund.	Total.
San Francisco, No. 1,..	\$179	\$107	\$286	Georgetown, No. 25,..	\$46	\$38	\$84	
Sonora, " 2,..	50	50	100	Oakland, " 26,..	86	61	147	
Sacramento, " 3,..	182	137	319	Delta, " 27,..	30	22	52	
California, " 5,..	275	221	496	Stockton, " 28,..	98	79	177	
Nevada, " 6,..	64	53	117	Manzanita, " 29,..	79	53	132	
Benicia, " 7,..	28	28	56	Napa, " 30,..	46	36	82	
Shasta, " 9,..	47	47	94	Martinez, " 31,..	33	32	65	
Sutter, " 11,..	82	57	141	Los Angeles, " 33,..	77	63	140	
Calaveras, " 12,..	40	32	72	Alturas, " 34,..	44	31	75	
Washington, " 13,..	148	99	245	Naval, " 35,..	73	61	134	
Howard, " 14,..	105	75	180	Alameda, " 36,..	127	71	198	
Cyrus, " 15,..	37	36	73	Siloam, " 37,..	34	30	64	
Saint James, " 16,..	38	34	72	Santa Cruz, " 38,..	38	30	68	
Libanus, " 17,..	29	27	56	Donner, " 39,..	89	44	133	
Grass Valley, " 18,..	102	68	170	Red Bluff, " 40,..	45	30	75	
Trinity, " 19,..	18	18	36	Temple, " 41,..	65	35	100	
Franklin, " 20,..	46	35	81	Chico, " 42,..	104	53	157	
Sierra, " 21,..	44	38	82	Solano, U. D.,	47	29	76	
Petaluma, " 22,..	85	50	135	Visalia, " ..	41	25	66	
Oliver, " 23,..	35	35	70	Santa Rosa, " ..	16	16	32	
La Fayette, " 24,..	24	17	41	Woodland, " ..	40	16	56	

Making a total of.....\$2916 \$2119 \$5035

Your committee present the following statement, showing the comparative membership of the Chapters in existence :—

- Of those having two hundred members or more, there is but one, viz : No. 5.
- Of those having one hundred, and less than one hundred and fifty, there are two, viz : Nos. 1 and 3.
- Of those having seventy-five, and less than one hundred, there are three, viz : Nos. 13, 14, and 28.
- Of those having fifty, and less than seventy-five, there are ten, viz : Nos. 2, 6, 11, 18, 22, 26, 29, 33, 36, and 42.
- Of those having thirty, and less than fifty, there are sixteen, viz : Nos. 9, 12, 15, 16, 20, 21, 23, 25, 30, 31, 34, 37, 38, 39, 40, and 41.
- Of those having twenty, and less than thirty, there are five, viz : Nos. 7, 17, 27, 43, and Visalia, U. D.
- Of those having fifteen, and less than twenty, there are two, viz : Nos. 19 and 24.
- Five Chapters, being Nos. 2, 7, 9, 15, and 23, have conferred no degrees during the year.
- One Chapter, No. 17, has conferred but two degrees during the year.
- One Chapter, No. 16, has conferred but four degrees during the year.
- All which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,
WILLIAM THOMPSON LUTHER,
MELVIN SYMS GARDNER,
ADONIRAM JUDSON LOOMIS,
JAMES MARTIN RODGERS, } Committee.

Which report was concurred in.

The Grand Secretary presented the credentials of Comp. GEORGE TUTTLE GRIMES as representative of the Grand Chapter of the State of Mississippi; and, on motion, Comp. GRIMES was received and accredited in that capacity.

The Grand Secretary presented the credentials of Comp. CHARLES MARSH, P. G. H. P., as representative of the Grand Chapter of the State of Maine; and, on motion, Comp. MARSH was received and accredited in that capacity.

On motion of Comp. WM. A. DAVIES, the election of Grand Officers was made the special order for two o'clock this afternoon.

Comp. CHARLES MARSH, from the Committee on Uniformity of Work, made a verbal report.

The Grand Secretary presented the following circular relative to the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia and the Grand Chapter of Scotland:—

CIRCULAR.

GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF NOVA SCOTIA,
HALIFAX, N. S., June 18th, 1872. }

At a meeting of the Committee of General Purposes of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Nova Scotia, held on the 17th instant, to consider a report from the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, declining to recognize our Supreme Grand Body: it was thought that as the reasons advanced for non-recognition were of such a frivolous and unsubstantial nature, a reply would be superfluous.

The committee therefore contented themselves with ordering that the document itself be published together with the resolutions passed by them, all of which are hereto appended.

“SUPREME GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF SCOTLAND, }
“SCRIBES CHAMBERS, 3 NORTH ST. DAVID STREET, }
“EDINBURGH, 1st June, 1872. }

“DEAR SIR AND COMPANION,

“I duly received your letter of 19th December last. It reached me just after a Quarterly Communication of the Supreme Chapter, and therefore I could not bring it before that Body till the next Quarterly Communication. A report upon the matter referred to in your letter was given in and adopted at next meeting of Supreme Chapter, and which report you will find printed at page 77 of the Supreme Chapter Reporter, a copy of which is sent herewith. I delayed replying to your letter until I could get a copy Reporter to send you, but the printing has been most unaccountably delayed. I had a proof in print on 23d March last, but owing to some Chapters delaying to send returns, and from other causes, I only got the copies this week. I now lose no time in sending you copy from which you will observe the Supreme Chapter is not prepared to countenance the movement in Nova Scotia to establish an independent Grand Chapter by three subordinate Chapters. I am

“Dear Sir and Comp.,

“Yours truly and fraternally,

“L. MACKERSY, G. S. E.

“JAMES GOSSIP, Esq.,

“Halifax, Nova Scotia.”

“EXTRACT FROM PROCEEDINGS OF GRAND CHAPTER OF SCOTLAND.

“REPORT by the Supreme Committee on Communication from the Nova Scotia craving recognition there of a Body styling itself the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia.

“In December, 1869, the Supreme Chapter on considering a report of the committee relative to the formation of this Body, unanimously resolved that no countenance be given to it. The report of the committee on which this resolution proceeded, narrated the fact that there were only five Chapters in Nova Scotia, and that of these only three had joined in the movement.

"By letter dated 19th December, 1871, a request for recognition by the Supreme Chapter is made, and a printed copy of the proceedings of the 'Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Nova Scotia, 1870-71,' is sent for the information of the Supreme Chapter.

"From this last mentioned document, it appears that there are three Chapters on roll of the 'Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Nova Scotia.' That the total number of members of Chapters holding of it is 136. That during last year the number admitted was 30, and that the balance at the credit of the 'Grand Chapter,' is \$146 46, or in English money £30 1s. 11d.

"In these circumstances the committee cannot recommend recognition. To recognize as a Grand Chapter a Body having fewer members, fewer admissions during the year, and less funds at its credit, than each of several subordinate Chapters holding of the Supreme Chapter, which could be named, appears to your committee to be making a burlesque of Grand Chapters, and has a manifest tendency to lower the dignity and impair the efficiency of Grand Chapters in general. Moreover the Chapters holding of the Supreme Chapter of Nova Scotia do not desire such recognition to be accorded, and the committee think it would be most inexpedient to give any countenance to the body now seeking recognition.

"WILLIAM HAY, *Chairman*,
"L. MACKERSY, *G. S. E.*"

[A true copy.]

On motion, the following resolutions were adopted unanimously :—

WHEREAS, By the report hereto annexed of the committee appointed by the Grand Chapter of Scotland to consider the request of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia for recognition of their supremacy in this jurisdiction, it appears that the said Grand Chapter of Scotland finally declines the recognition demanded.

Be it Resolved, That this Grand Chapter having made every effort for the past three years to effect a complete union of all the Chapters of this Province, and having failed, now think it time that the spirit of our Constitution should be adhered to, and our Supreme Authority over Royal Arch Masonry in this jurisdiction positively asserted. We do therefore now declare and proclaim the *Union Chapter*, No. 108, Yarmouth, and *St. John Chapter*, 130, Pictou, both in this Province, and holding under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Scotland, as *irregular*; and further, that the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia forbids its subordinate Chapters holding any Masonic intercourse as Royal Arch Masons with said irregular Chapters, until such time as this edict is revoked.

Further Resolved, That a copy of this circular be forwarded to all Chapters in this jurisdiction, and to all the Grand Chapters in the world.

JAMES GOSSIP,
Grand Secretary G. C. of Nova Scotia.

The statistics as to the number of Chapters under the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, and the number of members, as presented by the Grand Chapter of Scotland, is incorrect. We had five chartered Chapters and nearly 200 *actual* members at the close of our last year.

J. G.

Which was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

Comp. HIRAM T. GRAVES, from the Committee on Finances, presented the following report :—

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of California :—

Your Committee on Finances respectfully report that they have examined the books and accounts of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, carefully comparing the returns, vouchers, etc., with their reports, and find the same in all respects correct.

The receipts for the year ending April 8th, 1873, have been as follows :—

Balance in hands of Treasurer at date of last report,.....	\$3697 04
Dues from subordinate Chapters,.....	4996 00
Dispensations to new Chapters,.....	225 00
Special dispensations,.....	50 00
Fee for charter to <i>Solano Chapter</i> , No. 43,.....	50 00
From seventeen diplomas issued,.....	34 00
For eight bound volumes proceedings Grand Chapter,.....	16 00
Total,.....	\$9068 04

Which has been expended as follows :—

For expenses of delegates at Annual Convocation, 1872,.....	\$883 00
Expenses of Grand Officers, 1872,.....	78 00
Grand Guard,.....	35 00
Printing proceedings,.....	674 00
Binding proceedings,	103 00
Dispensation fee returned to <i>Visalia</i> Chapter,.....	90 00
Fitting room for records, etc., Grand Chapter,.....	20 00
To Comp. Moody, compensation as per order of the Grand Chapter,.....	300 00
Masonic Hall Association for rent,....	300 00
Expenses Grand Secretary's office,.....	79 85
Advertising,	15 00
For portrait Past Grand High Priest James L. English,.....	75 00
Printing,.....	54 50
Dues to General Grand Chapter,.....	20 13
Salary of Grand Secretary,.....	1200 00

Total,.....\$3927 48

Leaving balance in the treasury,..... 5140 56

\$9068 04

Your committee would recommend that the following appropriations be made for the expenses of the current year:—

For printing proceedings Grand Chapter,.....	\$500 00
For expenses delegates and Grand Officers,.....	1200 00
For salary of the Grand Secretary,.....	1200 00
For rent of Grand Secretary's office,.....	300 00
For compensation Grand Guard,.....	25 00
For expenses Grand Secretary's office,.....	50 00

\$3275 00.

Your committee find that the revenue to the Grand Chapter derived from the assessment of one dollar for each member borne upon the rolls of the several subordinate Chapters, as per general regulation No. 6, for what is known as the "Representative Fund," is at least double the amount required for that purpose, and would therefore recommend that the assessment be reduced from one dollar to fifty cents.

With regard to that portion of the Annual Address of the Grand High Priest which was referred to this committee, recommending a salary to the Grand Lecturer, we are of the opinion that the revenues of the Grand Chapter are not sufficient to warrant the payment of a salary at all adequate to the labor which is *needed* to be performed in order to insure that uniformity of work which it is sought to establish. We would however recommend that the subject matter be referred to a special committee of three, whose duty it shall be to prepare a plan similar to that adopted by the Grand Lodge, fixing a salary for the Grand Lecturer, the appointment by the Grand High Priest of a sufficient number of deputies, dividing the jurisdiction into districts, and making it compulsory upon subordinate Chapters to adopt the uniformity of work prescribed, and to report the same at the next Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter.

All which is respectfully submitted.

HIRAM THROOP GRAVES, HENRY SAYRE ORME, GEORGE HEIRN GILBERT, ALEX. HOPKINS HICHBORNE, THOMAS CALLOW,	}	Committee.
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Which report was concurred in, and that portion relative to work was referred to the Special Committee on Uniformity of Work.

On motion of Comp. CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, it was unanimously ordered that the retiring Grand High Priest, the *M. E.* JACOB HART NEFF, be requested to sit for his portrait, and the Grand Secretary be instructed to have it suitably framed and placed among the other portraits in the gallery of the Grand Chapter.

Comp. JOHN KIRKPATRICK offered the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the dues of Comp. GEORGE W. BABCOCK, late a member of *Forest Chapter*, (now extinct) be remitted, and a dimit granted him by the Grand Chapter.

Which resolution was not adopted.

Comp. CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN offered the following resolution:—

Resolved, That upon a proper application being made to the Grand Chapter by Comp. GEORGE W. BABCOCK, and upon the payment of such dues as he may be able to pay, he be restored to all the rights and privileges of Royal Arch Masonry, and the Grand Secretary be instructed to issue to him a dimit.

On motion of Comp. WILLIAM A. DAVIES, action on the foregoing resolution was postponed until the next Annual Convocation.

On motion of Comp. WILLIAM A. DAVIES, the delegates in attendance were allowed three dollars each per day during the Convocation of the Grand Chapter, and all who were absent on the first day were excused.

Comp. CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN presented the following question:—

Does the restoration of a member of a Lodge, after suspension, restore him in the Chapter?

Which was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

The Grand Chapter was then called off until 1 o'clock this afternoon.

In Grand Chapter.

AFTERNOON SESSION,
Wednesday, April 9th, A. I. 2403. }

The Grand Chapter was called on at 1 o'clock, the Grand High Priest presiding.

The minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

Comp. ALVIN BACON PRESTON, from the special committee to audit the accounts of delegates, presented the following report :—

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of California :—

Your committee, to whom was referred the apportionment of the Representative Fund, have performed the duty assigned them, and recommend that the following amounts be allowed the delegates of the Chapters represented :—

San Francisco, No. 1,.....	\$ 6 00	Oakland, No. 26,.....	6 30
Sonora, " 2,.....	29 00	Delta, " 27,.....	23 00
Sacramento, " 3,.....	16 00	Manzanita, " 29,.....	33 00
California, " 5,.....	6 00	Napa, " 30,.....	11 00
Nevada, " 6,.....	31 00	Los Angeles, " 33,.....	49 50
Benicia, " 7,.....	9 00	Alturas, " 34,.....	70 00
Shasta, " 9,.....	44 00	Naval, " 35,.....	8 00
Sutter, " 11,.....	27 00	Alameda, " 36,.....	6 30
Washington, " 13,.....	23 00	Siloam, " 37,.....	23 00
Howard, " 14,.....	11 00	Santa Cruz, " 38,.....	16 00
Saint James, " 16,.....	31 00	Donner, " 39,.....	42 00
Grass Valley, " 18,.....	31 00	Red Bluff, " 40,.....	27 50
Trinity, " 19,.....	54 00	Temple, " 41,.....	18 00
Franklin, " 20,.....	24 00	Chico, " 42,.....	29 00
Sierra " 21,.....	58 00	Solano, " 43,.....	16 00
Petaluma, " 22,.....	8 00	Visalia, U. D.,.....	51 00
Oliver, " 23,.....	27 00	Santa Rosa, "	14 00
La Fayette, " 24,.....	36 00	Woodland, "	16 00
Georgetown, " 25,.....	32 00		
			\$962 60

And that the following amounts be allowed the Grand Officers in attendance :—

Grand High Priest,.....	\$21 00	Grand King,.....	\$ 6 30
Deputy Grand High Priest,.....	44 00	Grand Lecturer,.....	28 50

All which is respectfully submitted.

ALVIN BACON PRESTON,
WILEY JAMES TINNIN,
ALFRED COOLIDGE WAITT,
AMBROSE HALL COWDEN,
WILLIAM MONROE PETRIE,

} Committee.

Comp. THOMAS H. CASWELL, from the Committee on Jurisprudence, presented the following reports :—

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of California :—

Your committee, to whom was referred that portion of the M. E. Grand High Priest's Address which relates to Quincy Chapter, No. 32, and that part of the Grand Secretary's report referring to the same subject, having considered the same, beg leave to report—

That all matters pertaining to said Chapter, as provided for by this Grand Chapter at its last Annual Convocation, have been disposed of, and the action recommended fully carried out. But the report of the Grand Secretary shows that the Chapter in question has made no returns, and paid no dues to this Grand Chapter for three years last past. This seems to be in direct conflict with both the letter and spirit of the Constitution of our Grand Body, and is such an act of disobedience as is provided against in the first subdivision of Sec. 2, of Article XVIII, and upon which, in the opinion of your committee, action should be taken. And from a statement made by a member of the said delinquent Chapter, we are more than satisfied

that the interests of Royal Arch Masonry will be promoted by the revocation of its charter—as in that event a new Chapter will probably be formed in a more thriving and populous settlement. We therefore submit the following resolution, and recommend its adoption :—

Resolved, That the charter of Quincy Chapter, No, 32, be, and the same is hereby revoked.

All which is respectfully submitted.

THOMAS H. CASWELL, WILLIAM S. WELLS, WILLIAM A. DAVIES, GEORGE T. GRIMES, JOHN W. HARVILLE,	}	Committee.
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Which report was concurred in, and the resolution accompanying it was adopted.

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California :—

Your committee, to whom was referred the communication from the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Nova Scotia, beg leave to report that, having duly considered the same, we recommend that the consideration of the circular by this Grand Chapter be deferred until the next Annual Convocation, for the following reasons :—

First. The question of the recognition of a Grand Body in conflict with a power occupying friendly relations with us, and claiming jurisdiction over it, deserves a careful examination ; and action should only be taken by us after serious consideration by a committee of this Grand Chapter, that our record in the matter may be consistent and serve as a precedent in future action ; and we therefore recommend that the circular herein referred to be submitted to the Committee on Jurisprudence to be appointed at this session, with instructions to report thereon at the next Annual Convocation.

All which is respectfully submitted.

THOMAS H. CASWELL, GEORGE T. GRIMES, WILLIAM S. WELLS, WILLIAM A. DAVIES, JOHN W. HARVILLE,	}	Committee.
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Comp. CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN offered the following resolution as a substitute for the report of the committee :—

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter recognizes the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia as a legitimate Grand Body, and we extend to her a cordial and fraternal welcome among the Grand Bodies of the Royal Craft.

Which resolution, after a lengthy discussion, was not adopted, and, on motion, the report of the committee was concurred in.

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California :—

Your committee have had under consideration the matter of the suspension of Royal Arch Masons, in Lodges of which they have been members, either for non-payment of dues or for any other cause, respectfully make this report, and recommend, for the purpose of communicating the facts authoritatively to the Chapters interested, the adoption of the following resolution :—

Resolved, That upon the publication, by the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of California, of the lists of suspensions and expulsions, the Grand Secretary of this Grand Chapter be, and he is hereby directed to issue a circular to the Chap-

ters of this jurisdiction containing the names, with causes of suspension, of all Royal Arch Masons who are members of such Chapter.

All which is respectfully submitted.

THOMAS H. CASWELL,	} Committee.
GEORGE T. GRIMES,	
WILLIAM S. WELLS,	
WILLIAM A. DAVIES,	
JOHN W. HARVILLE,	

Which report was concurred in, and the resolution accompanying it was adopted.

Comp. CHARLES MARSH, from the special committee on uniformity of work, presented the following report:—

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California:—

Your committee, appointed at the last Annual Convocation on the Uniformity of Work, respectfully report that in the consideration of the subject they have arrived at the conclusion that the work as adopted by this Grand Chapter in 1855, and since practised by a great majority of the Chapters of this jurisdiction, is in all essentials consonant with the traditions and history of Royal Arch Masonry in the United States, and that a reasonably well skilled Royal Arch Mason of this jurisdiction can make himself known in any Chapter working under the so called American or English Rite. It is true that there are some minor differences which obtain in the several jurisdictions of the country, but they are not of sufficient importance to disturb the universality of the Royal Craft throughout our country, as is illustrated by the regularly occurring Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter since 1798. At the last Triennial Convocation in 1871, nearly every Grand Chapter in the United States was represented, and recognized as exponents of the American system of Royal Arch Masonry.

Therefore your committee respectfully recommend that the work and lectures heretofore taught in this jurisdiction, as adopted by this Grand Body in 1855, be continued; and, in accordance with the suggestion of the most excellent Grand High Priest on the subject of salary for the Grand Lecturer, we recommend that that officer be allowed the sum of one thousand dollars per year for his services, and that he be directed to visit and instruct, as far as practicable, each Chapter in the jurisdiction during the year, and that each Chapter shall receive from him instruction in the work and lectures, and shall pay him his actual traveling and other expenses incurred in making such visitation.

All which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES MARSH,	} Committee.
ALEX. G. ABELL,	

On motion of Comp. WILLIAM T. REYNOLDS, the whole subject matter was referred back to the committee, with instructions to report at the next Annual Convocation.

On motion, the sum of twenty-five dollars was ordered to be paid to the Grand Organist for services rendered at this Convocation.

The hour for the special order—the election of Grand Officers—having arrived, the Grand High Priest appointed Comps. GEORGE TUTTLE GRIMES and WILLIAM ABRAHAM DAVIES as tellers.

The Grand Chapter then proceeded to ballot, with the following result :—

The *M. . E. .* WILLIAM ABRAHAM DAVIES was elected Grand High Priest ;
 “ *R. . E. .* JOSEPH ISAACS was elected Deputy Grand High Priest ;
 “ *R. . E. .* WILLIAM THOMAS REYNOLDS was elected Grand King ;
 “ *R. . E. .* WILLIAM ALEX. JANUARY was elected Grand Scribe ;
 “ *R. . E. .* JOSEPH BONAPARTE SCOTCHLER was reelected Grand Treasurer ;
 “ *R. . E. .* CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN was reelected Grand Secretary ;
 “ *E. .* HENRY HAY KNAPP was elected Grand Captain of the Host ;
 “ *E. .* NATHAN WESTON SPAULDING was elected Grand Royal Arch Captain.

The Grand High Priest announced the following appointments for the ensuing year, viz : as

Grand Chaplain, . . . Comp.	JOHN ELLIOTT BENTON, . . . of <i>Alameda</i>	Chapter, No. 26 ;
Grand Lecturer, . . . “	THOS. HUBBARD CASWELL, . . of <i>Nevada</i>	“ No. 6 ;
Grand Organist, . . . “	SAMUEL DAVID MAYER, . . . of <i>California</i>	“ No. 5 ;
Grand Guard, “	IBA COLBURN ROOT, of <i>California</i>	“ No. 5.

The newly elected and appointed Grand Officers were then duly installed in their respective stations by the *M. . E. .* THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL, Past Grand High Priest.

The business of the Grand Chapter being all completed, the minutes of the day were read and approved, and the Grand Chapter of California was closed in *Ample Form*.

WILLIAM ABRAHAM DAVIES,

Grand High Priest.

ATTEST :

CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,
Grand Secretary.

GENERAL REGULATIONS.

1. The Degree of Past Master must be conferred upon all candidates who have previously had the degree conferred upon them in a convocation of Past Masters, by virtue of an election to preside over a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.

2. All the Chapters under this jurisdiction are required, in the conferring of degrees, to conform to the ritual adopted by the Grand Chapter, at its Special Convocation, in September, 1855.

3. Every Mark Master attached to a Chapter under this jurisdiction must, within six months after his admission, select his mark, and record the same in a Book of Marks, kept by the Chapter for that purpose; and it is made the special duty of the Secretary of each Chapter to see that this regulation is complied with.

4. The term "nearest Chapter," used in the Constitution, means the nearest by geographical measurement.

5. No Masonic communication shall be held with a Royal Arch Mason who stands suspended as a Master Mason, for any cause.

6. Each Chapter under this jurisdiction shall pay, in addition to its annual dues, the sum of one dollar for each Royal Arch Mason borne upon its roll at the date of its annual report, which additional assessment shall be used as a fund to defray the actual expenses of one delegate from each Chapter represented at the annual convocations of the Grand Chapter, the same to be apportioned by a special committee appointed for that purpose.

7. Whenever two or more Chapters exist in any city or town within this jurisdiction, it shall be the duty of each of such Chapters to notify the other or others existing in the same place of all applications presented to it for the degrees.

8. That the Grand High Priest be requested to appoint a Grand Lecturer, who will be authorized to teach and instruct the subordinate Chapters in conformity with the ritual adopted by this Grand Chapter at its Special Convocation in September, 1855.

9. When, after an election of an applicant to receive the Chapter degrees, and he has received the Mark Degree, an objection to his advancement is made at any time by a member, such objection shall be referred to a committee, with power to inquire into the cause thereof, who shall at the next stated meeting (unless further time be given) report thereon; and upon the reception of such report, if no cause for the objection has been assigned, or if the cause assigned be, in the opinion of two-thirds of the members present, not a valid and Masonic one, the Chapter may confer the degree in the same manner as if no objection had been made.

10. No petition for the degrees, or application for membership, shall be received by any Chapter within this jurisdiction, unless it be signed with the full name or names of the petitioner or applicant; and, in the annual reports of the subordinate Chapters, the given name or names of every member or others upon their rolls, shall be given in full.

11. The provisions of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of the State of California shall be, in all essential respects, where there is no conflict between it and the Constitution of this Grand Chapter, the rules and regulations by which the action of the subordinate Chapters of this jurisdiction shall be governed.

RETURNS
OF THE
SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS
UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE
Grand Chapter of California,
A. I. 2403.

SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER, No. 1.

San Francisco, San Francisco County.

Stated Meetings, first and third Mondays in each month.

OFFICERS:

Theodore Edward Smith, <i>High Priest,</i>	Sharron Pratt Doane, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Samuel Sternheim, <i>King,</i>	Charles James, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Simon Baum, <i>Scribe,</i>	Henry Wangenheim, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Henry Williams, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Joseph Clement, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Henry Edwards, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Henry Lyon Cohen, <i>Secretary,</i>
Edw'd Taylor Anthony, <i>Royal Arch Capt.</i>	Henry Martyn Bosworth, <i>Organist,</i>
Ira Colburn Root, (of California, No. 5) <i>Guard.</i>	

Past High Priests:

John Dunbar Creigh,	Martin John Burke,	Stewart Menzies,
Adolphus Hollub,	John Rudolphe Jarboe,	Theodore Edward Smith.
Louis Cohn,	Milton Hills Myrick,	

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Anderson, Thomas	Cogswell, James LaFayette	Foorman, Samuel
Behrendt, Herman	Craig, James	Franz, Bernhard
Berggren, August	Craig, Peter	Friedberg, Morris T.
Bergson, Ole	Cressy, Albert	Friedlander, Moritz
Bilty, Theodore George	Curry, Nathaniel	Fuentes, Charles Angel
Browell, Jeremiah	Davis, Henry Lamen	Fuller, Andrew
Bryan, William	Dreyfous, Benjamin	Gay, John Gilmore
Burns, Henry Jameson	Eisenberg, Julius	Gerhow, Frederick
Caro, Samuel	Emanuel, Emanuel	Ghirardelli, Domingo, Jr.
Carpenter, Augustine Dyer	Esberg, Mendel	Giambini, Natale
Clinch, Charles Godfrey	Farquharson, David	Gilberts, Edward
Cohn, Martin	Fisher, Henry James	Goetz, Joseph

Haight, Henry Huntley	Mohrhardt, Philip Fred'k	Schweitzer, John
Hanson, Henry Sorenson	Moraghan, Michael Bolan	Schweitzer, Samuel
Haraszthy, Arpad	Newhall, Henry Mayo	Solomon, Albert
Harris, Daniel	Newman, Isaac	Steffani, Camillo
Heald, Charles Byron	Nicolaysen, Frank	Stuart, William Adams
Herzo, John	Nutsen, Charles A.	Sumner, William Brintnell
Hiller, Frederick	Pearson, Henry Haven	Sweet, Solomon
Jacoby, Augustus	Prag, Martin	Treat, George
Jordon, Dennis	Rawson, Julius Addison	Triest, Bernhard
Kehoe, John	Robinson, Cornelius Preston	Voight, Christian
Kenitzer, Henry	Robitscheck, Herman	Von Aspern, John
Kittredge, Jonathan	Rosenbaum, Joseph	Walton, Nelson Collins, Jr.
Kohn, Isaac	Rosenbaum, Julius	Wood, Andrew Bunker
Levy, Jacob	Rosenbaum, Moses	Woolley, Lell Hawley
Madison, John Henry	Saulman, August	Wormser, Isador
McDonald, Robert	Sawyer, Lorenzo	Wormser, Louis
Meyer, Charles	Schmidt, Anton	Zinn, Henry—107
Michaels, Aaron W.		

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS :

Gordon, James Edward Newbauer, Herman Wolf Richards, Charles Wesley—3.

RESTORED :

Robinson, John C.

Suanet, A. C.

WITHDRAWN :

Blum, Isidor

Laronche, Antoine

Suanet, A. C.

Elles, August Wm. Herman

Mitchell, David

Wasserman, August

Hyman, Henry Wolf

Parker, Charles Hubbard

Whiting, Mannassah S.

Kirby, John Timothy

Platshek, Samuel

Wolf, David—13.

Kline, Lazarus

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Bach, Rudolph

Hull, George S.

Weid, Ivan A.—5.

Fried, Ignatius S.

Robinson, John C.

DIED :

Ballentine, James—1.

SONORA CHAPTER, NO. 2.

Columbia, Tuolumne County.

Stated Meetings, Wednesday of or next preceding Full Moon.

OFFICERS :

Edwin Aldrich Rogers, *High Priest,*

Solomon Benas, *Master of 3d Vail,*

Alvin Bacon Preston, *King,*

Alonzo Colby, *Master of 2d Vail,*

Gideon Wing, *Scribe,*

Henry Clay Calhoun, *Master of 1st Vail,*

Wm. Davis Newton, *Captain of the Host,*

Charles Edward Lang, *Treasurer,*

Eli Griffith Bacon, *Principal Sojourner,*

William Henry Ryan, *Secretary,*

Henry Dose, *Royal Arch Captain,*

Edward Skinner, *Guard.*

Past High Priests :

Francis Anthony Prassa,
Alvin Bacon Preston,
Isaac Newton McCulloch,
Frederick Faxon,
William Davis Newton,

Stephen Wing,
Edward Skinner,
William Henry Ryan,
Eli Griffith Bacon.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Andross, Moses Chamberl'n	Johnson, William	Parsons, Edmond
Bacon, Martin	Keil, Edward	Patterson, Archibald
Barlow, Abraham	Klein, Conrad	Reed, Abner
Bartlett, Daniel Francis	Klein, Peter	Ripperdan, Isaac
Bell, Andrew N.	Lampson, Royal Mills	Rudorff, William Gustave
Bell, James	Mann, John Christian	Sharrock, Evrard
Bush, George Carroll	McFarland, Matthias	Thurman, William H.
Bird, Francis Jahew	Mundorf, John	White, Moses Henry
Carter, John Beach	Mayer, Willis	Winne, George
Cleveland, Septimus Allin	Mitchell, Fred'k Francis	Wade, Charles Frederick
Doxey, Beverly M.	Oppenheimer, Benjamin	Yancy, Tyron Milton
Harris, Charles Parsons		

—50.

WITHDRAWN:

Hill, Edmund Arthur

Schuler, Henry—2.

DIED :

Kaufman, Morris—1.

SACRAMENTO CHAPTER, No. 3.**Sacramento, Sacramento County.***Stated Meetings, first Tuesday in each month.***OFFICERS :**

William Monroe Petrie, <i>High Priest</i> ,	Hamilton Carter Harrison, <i>Mast. 3d Vail</i> ,
John Austin Cunningham, <i>King</i> ,	Benj. Franklin Alexander, <i>Mast. 2d Vail</i> ,
Hiram Cook, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Bernard Ulmer Steinman, <i>Mast 1st Vail</i> ,
William Smith Hunt, <i>Captain of the Host</i> ,	Henry William Bragg, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Wm. Buckley Davis, <i>Principal Sojourner</i> ,	George Norman Parker, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Hilliard P. Cottingham, <i>Royal Arch Capt.</i>	Peter Zacharias, <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests:

James Lawrence English,
William Franklin Knox,
Francis Foster,

George Howard Winterburn,
Powell Samuel Lawson.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Allen, John Francis	Brewington, Benj. Smith	Cluness, William R.
Allen, Robert	Bryding, Peter	Coghlan, Charles Mortimer
Anthony, James	Budd, Henry	Cohn, Charles
Barnes, Jacob	Burnham, James Henry	Conover, John
Banquier, Joseph	Bugbey, Benjamin Norton	Coolidge, Isaac Baldwin
Bergevin, Nelson Langevin	Callaghan, Daniel E.	Crocker, Henry Smith
Berkey, Thomas Henry	Champlin, Nelson	Croly, Edward James
Bronner, George Frederick	Christy, Edward	Dale, Richard

Davis, Jacob Zeigler	Hyman, Jacob, Sr.	Phillipps, Louis
Day, James Thompson	Hyman, Jacob, Jr.	Phipps, Eugene King
Dennerly, Bernard	Inwalle, John Joseph	Radmaker, Charles
Domingos, John	Jacobs, Enoch	Ratcliff, William M.
Drew, Nathaniel Lafayette	Jones, Edward Augustus	Rath, Elias
Duprey, George	Jones, Jeremiah Solon	Redington, Alfred Augustus
Earl, George	Kay, Samuel	Robertson, John
Ecklon, Christian Ludwig	Kercheval, Reuben	Robinson, Robert
Egl, Anthony	Kimball, Gorham Gates	Ross, Charles Henry
English, William Garrison	Lavenson, Samuel	Rothermel, Chas. Nicholas
Feldheim, Nathan G.	Lawrie, John Brown	Sawyer, James
Forbes, Robert	Levison, Jacob	Silberstein, Morris
Foy, Wm Robinson Smith	Levy, Edward Roger	Sims, Samuel
Frank, Samuel	Locke, George Washington	Smith, John Wm. Martin
Gates, Justin	Lyon, Edward	Smith, Joshua Hughes
Gillis, Dougald	Maholm, James Bowland	Spinks, Alfred
Giraud, Eugene	Maier, Jacob Fred. William	Starr, Erwin Platt
Golden, Thomas	Merrill, John F.	Taylor, Edwin Trost
Goldberg, Harris	McConnell, Thomas	Trope, Peter
Grady, John Harmony	McCormack, Charles	Ulp, Alfred
Griffiths, John T.	McCune, Henry Ewalt	Wachhorst, Herman
Haines, Gabriel	McKune, John Hill	Wallquist, Carl Johan
Hammer, Luther Kentz	Meyer, Bernard	Waterhouse, Columbus
Haskell, Dudley Haines	Miller, Peter Andrew	Welch, Benjamin
Haymond, Creed	Montgomery, George	Welch, George Drake
Hawkins, William	Morse, Stephen Turner	Wells, William Henry
Hevener, William Henry	Murphy, Robert Wilson	Wickstram, Carl Elias
Hill, William Henry	Nelson, Alton Titus	Wilcoxson, Jefferson
Hoag, William Moffit	Oakley, Peter Eager	Willetts, Edward Walter
Hoehn, William	O'Neil, James	Williamson, David J.
Holmes, Henry T.	Oschner, John	Wilson, Jesse Warren
Hull, Joseph	Parnell, John Henry	Woods, Jonas Stanbury

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PAST MASTERS:

Fassett, Lewis Hillyer

Howard, James Washington—2.

WITHDRAWN:

Baker, Thomas

Bromley, George Tisdale

Harkness, Harvey Wilson

Booth, Lucius A.

Byington, Ira Weeks

Hoehn, Jacob

Bragg, Albert Leander

Gregg, George

Kinsey, Kerst—9.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Feneuf, E. R.

Odell, John Adams

Smith, William Wallace

King, Cameron Haight

Perkins, William Dana

Sutliff, Levi Beardslie

McAlister, Adam Armstr'g

Smith, Hiram Abif

Wheeler, Osgood Church

Nichols, Lewis Balch

Smith, Mathew J.

—11.

EXCLUDED:

Shirland, Edmond Dana.

CALIFORNIA CHAPTER, NO. 5.**San Francisco, San Francisco County.***Stated Meetings, first and third Tuesdays in each month.***OFFICERS :**

Hiram Throop Graves, <i>High Priest,</i>	Chas. Johnson Willey, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Alfred Coolidge Waitt, <i>King,</i>	John Newman, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Joseph Miller Litchfield, <i>Scribe,</i>	Thomas T. Atkinson, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Alphonso Hyman Vaughn, <i>Capt. of Host,</i>	Samuel Graves, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Geo. Tisdale Bromley, <i>Princ'l Sojourner,</i>	William Edward Moody, <i>Secretary,</i>
Jesse Combes Reed, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	Samuel David Mayer, <i>Organist,</i>
James Oglesby, <i>Guard.</i>	

Past High Priests :

Reuben Edgar Raymond,	Wm. Thomas Reynolds,	William Wilson Traylor,
Alexander Gurdon Abell,	James Laidley,	John Kirkpatrick,
William Henry Lyon,	John Francis Snow,	John William Harville,
Charles Louis Wiggin,	Samuel Graves,	Thomas Kyle.
George Tuttle Grimes,		

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Angus, John Archibald	Churchill, Clark	Garratt, Wm. Thompson
Ashbury, Monroe	Clary, William Henry	Gates, Horatio Sylvester
Ashley, Sidney John	Cockrill, Theo. Guevara	Gilmore, Archibald Neill
Arnold, Alex. Spencer	Cook, Nicholas Leonidas	Goewey, James Monroe
Arrowsmith, D. Bloomer	Cousins, Charles Samuel	Grant, Thomas Chamberlin
Balch, Stephen Moore	Cox, Henry	Gray, William
Baldwin, Alex. Richard	Cox, Palmer	Green, Alonzo
Bamber, John	Craig, William	Gunn, William John
Barnes, Wm. Henry Linow	Cummings, Walter Bailey	Hall, Robert
Barth, Charles Hunter	Davis, Edmund S.	Harrington, John Conly
Beach, Henry Martin	Davis, Isaac Elphinstone	Harris, James Henry
Beadle, Donald	Day, Franklin Henry	Hastings, Everett Linus
Bell, John	Dean, Peter	Hildebrandt, Carsten
Best, John Tretten	Dougherty, Chas. Medley	Hinckley, Chas. Edward
Blaikie, James Longhead	Earl, John Ogden	Hobbs, Caleb Seccohmb
Boswell, Solomon Bailey	Eastman, Frank	Hodge, John G.
Bourne, Elisha Wilson	Eaton, Jonas Allen	Hodgkins, Alfred Randall
Bragg, Robert	Eckfeldt, John Michael	Holcomb, William Austin
Brander, John Samuel	Edwards, Frank George	Hotaling, Anson Parsons
Brannan, Samuel	Elliot, Gardner	Hotchkiss, Henry Wells
Bridge, William Edward	Ellis, Henry Hiram	Howard, George Henry
Brigham, Calvin Oakes	Ellis, John Stoneacre	Howe, George Washington
Brooks, Thomas Hubbard	Ellsworth, Anson Merrill	Horton, Thomas Rotch
Brown, Roland Gair	Ewell, Luther Jerome	Ingalls, John Newton
Browning, Jeremiah	Estee, Morris March	Jacobs, Albert
Bruner, Wm. Happersatt	Fake, George John	Jeffray, William
Callaghan, Charles	Farnam, Edward	Johnson, John Munroe .
Cecil, John	Farrish, Thomas Edwin	Johnson, William Corrie
Center, John	Farwell, William Havard	Johnston, Baptist
Chapin, Dinsmore Davis	Flynn, Martin	Johnston, William David
Chevers, William Henry	Garniss, James Rodgers	Jones, Cyrus Winship

Jones, William Arthur
Kennedy, Frank
Kimball, Moses Combe
King, Henry Lewis
King, John
King, Joseph Libbey
Kincaid, John Evans
Kuh, Leopold
Kaeding, Chas. Van Buren
Lane, Edmund
Lane, George E. Jr.
Laird, David White
Landers, John
Lewis, Edwin
Litchfield, Watson Dyer
Loop, Sidney Joseph
Louderback, Andrew A.
Luty, John Samuel
Lyman, Charles
Maguire, Joseph
Maleas, Christian W.
McComb, John
McCrindle, William
McDonald, Alex. Dunbar
McDonough, And. Wester
McNulty, Chas. Augustus
Middleton, Frank
Miller, Elbridge L.
Miller, Stephen Girard
Montagnie, Joseph E. de la
Montague, Wilford Weed
Moore, Elliot Josiah
Moore, Robert Henry
Morgan, David, Jr.
Morgan, John Stilwell

Morse, Ebenezer Eaton
Morton, Charles Carey
Nagel, William
Nagle, George Dedrich
Neal, Charles Sanders
Neville, Ernest Harry
Norcross, Daniel
Northrop, David Blair
O'Conner, Thomas Michael
Olin, Ansil S.
Osgood, George
Parker, George Franklin
Pendergast, James Albert
Plum, Charles Mortimer
Pratt, Leonidas E.
Price, Thomas
Prior, John Lewis
Ramsdell, Benjamin Hatch
Reavis, William Henry
Reynolds, Frank Bailey
Richards, William Henry
Root, Ira Colburn
Rosekrans, Hiram
Rundell, William Mason
Russell, John Adam
Sawyer, Charles Henry
Schafer, Herman Henry
Schneider, Edward William
Selden, James Miles
Shaeffer, John Werner
Shattuck, David Dustin
Short, Peter
Shrader, Andrew Jackson
Smith, Edwin Lawrence

Smith, Henry Sumner
Smith, Stephen Henry
Stadtfeld, Jacob
Stanley, Samuel Lewis
Stebbins, Wm. Pitt Cleveland
Steiger, Charles Rudolphe
Stockman, John Milton
Stringer, William James
Sullivan, Eugene Lemuel
Swift, James Flitcroft
Thompson, Lucius
Thomson, Malcolm
Thrall, Henry Homer
Torrence, John
Trueworthy, Francis Marion
Tustin, William Isaac
Van Bokkelen, Jac. Lorillard
Van Duzer, Oliver
Wadsworth, James C. L.
Warren, Joseph M.
Waterhouse, Fred. Adelbert
Waters, George Latham
Wells, William
Wetherbee, Calvin Hale
Wheeler, Jacob
Wightman, John
Wilde, Francis Brooke
Willey, Otis Freeman
Williams, Abraham Pease
Williams, John Henry
Williamson, Robt. Stockton
Wilson, Charles
Winkle, Henry
Wooster, John Benj.—221.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS :

Bryan, Edward Hord
Easton, Wendell

Foot, Henry Du Quesnet
Marye, George Thomas, Jr.

McMath, Joseph—5.

RESTORED :

Convis, Charles Cooley
Cook, Nicholas Leonidas

Elsworth, Anson Merrill

Kinciad, John Evans—4.

WITHDRAWN :

Bradford, William
Convis, Charles Cooley
Crane, Henry Adolphus

Currier, John Charles
Fitzgerald, Adolphus Leigh
Love, David Mantua
Mastick, Levi Benjamin
Williams, Henry Brown—8.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Highton, Henry Edward

Jeinsen, Ernest Von

Stoutenborough, John Henry—3.

DIED :

Bitter, William
Covert, Abraham Mann

King, William Freeborne

Korts, Henry—4.

NEVADA CHAPTER, NO. 6.**Nevada, Nevada County.***Stated Meetings, first Monday in each month.***OFFICERS :**

Thomas Mein, <i>High Priest,</i>	Kaskil Casper, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Edward Williams, <i>King,</i>	James Donald, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Adolphus Goldsmith, <i>Scribe,</i>	Halstead Stansfield, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Allen Chapman, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Martin Luther Marsh, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Rodney Wing, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Thomas Hubbard Caswell, <i>Secretary,</i>
John Herbert Boardman, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	Joseph Brewster Gray, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Thomas Hubbard Caswell,	Charles Marsh.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Banner, Phineas	Floyd, William	Preston, Edward Myers
Brown, David Mathew	Fowler, Edwin	Randolph, William Cooper
Chapin, Samuel Leonard	Gentry, Richard Benton	Rolfe, Ianthis Jerome
Colby, George Hackett	Gilbert, John Richards	Rose, David
Crandall, Orman	Greenwald, Julius	Sargent, Aaron Augustus
Davidson, William Henry	Hale, Horace	Searls, Niles
Davis, James	Hathaway, Francis Marion	Slinger, William
Dickson, John Hutton	Helm, James Harvey	Stowers, Nathaniel Henry
Dill, John	Long, William David	Tilley, Edwin
Donald, Alfred	McBrown, John	Tisdale, William De Witt
Donald, Thomas	Montgomery, John	Weeks, William Hamilton
Ennis, Franklin	Pease, Sanford Orrin	Williamson, Levi
Faull, George	Prescott, Lyman Reed	Wirth, James Albert—53.
Fleming, Joseph Davenport		

PAST MASTER :

Thom, David, Jr.—1.

WITHDRAWN :

Beaumont, Joseph—1.

DIED:

Rolfe, Tallman Hathaway—1.

BENICIA CHAPTER, NO. 7.**Benicia, Solano County.***Stated Meetings, Tuesday of or next preceding Full Moon.***OFFICERS :**

Timothy Sage, <i>High Priest,</i>	Edw. Horatio Von Pfister, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
John Housley, <i>King,</i>	Joseph Green Johnson, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Lansing Bond Mizner, <i>Scribe,</i>	Archibald McDonald, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
George Poor, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	John Rueger, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Wm. Henry Smith, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Thomas McKay, <i>Secretary,</i>
Robert Stewart, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	William Matthewson, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Sylvester Woodbridge,	Timothy Sage.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Ashbrook, Alfred	Grant, John	Owen, John Wren
Brownlee, Thomas	Holbrook, Charles Edward	Pollock, Robert
Danforth, Edwin	Long, Michael Henry	Scott, James
Ennis, Richard	Mathewson, John	Spencer, Christopher
Freeman, Otis Kimball	McKenzie, Allen	Westlake, John—28.

WITHDRAWN :

Spaulding, Charles	Stone, John Charles—2.
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SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:

Boles, J. L.—1.

SHASTA CHAPTER, NO. 9.

Shasta, Shasta County.

Stated Meetings, second and fourth Tuesdays in each month.

OFFICERS:

Daniel Potter Bystle, <i>High Priest,</i>	Joseph Weil, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Benjamin Shurtleff, <i>King,</i>	Ulyses Richard Lord, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Louis Wellendorff, <i>Scribe,</i>	James Freeman Scammon, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Joseph Isaacs, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	John Varner Scott, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Adolph Dobrowsky, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	David Weil, <i>Secretary,</i>
Alex. Cartwright Swain, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	Gunther Fred. C Schroter, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Whiting Griswold West, <i>P. G. H. P.</i>	Adolph Dobrowsky,
Joseph Isaacs,	George Carruth Farquhar,
Daniel Potter Bystle.	

ROYAL ARCH MASONS.

Allen, Mortimer Churbery	Greene, Thomas	Shuffleton, Hugh Hall
Andrew, William	Guptil, William Neal	Souter, John
Andrews, Alex. Robinson	Higginbotham, Jno. Baptist	Sweet, Henry Andrew
Anderson, Charles	Hopping, William Ely	Syme, John
Anklin, Henry	Matlock, David B.	Taggart, Grant Israel
Chandler, Fred. Brewster	Overmire, Charles Edwin	Taylor, Holloway
Chappell, James Nathan	Parker, William	Watson, William
Coleman, Adoram	Pryor, Athanasius	Webb, John Paxton
Dixon, Elijah Mason	Reagan, James	Wheeler, Frank
Garden, John William	Reinecke, Christopher	Wilson, Henry Ellis
Goodberg, Francis William	Ross, Herman Frederick	Wimmer, James Moses—47.

WITHDRAWN :

Cushing, John—1.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:

Lean, William—1.

DIED :

Kiess, James Henry—1.

SUTTER CHAPTER, NO. 11.**Sutter Creek, Amador County.***Stated Meetings, third Friday in each month.***OFFICERS:**

Henry Peck, <i>High Priest</i> ,	John Mis Campbell, <i>Master of 3d Vail</i> ,
Robert Aitken, <i>King</i> ,	Morris Brinn, <i>Master of 2d Vail</i> ,
Charles Drake Burleson, <i>Scribe</i> ,	William Smith, <i>Master of 1st Vail</i> ,
John Whitton Surface, <i>Capt. of the Host</i> ,	Peter Fagan, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Abner Edward Callaway, <i>Prin. Sojourner</i> ,	Alonzo King Dudley, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Thomas Dunlap, <i>R. A. Captain</i> ,	Jesse Milliken, <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests :

Alvinza Hayward,	Alexander Cartwright Joy,	Henry Peck.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Adams, James	Isaacs, Bernard	Redpath, Robert
Bennetts, William	Kales, Martin William	Richling, Peter
Briggs, Samuel Green	Kelley, John Barnes	Robinson, John Andrew
Bury, Daniel William	Keyes, John	Rose, Albert Henry
Clute, Peter Alonzo	Lillie, John B.	Spagnolia, Duval Bennedetto
Comstock, Asa Leland	Lutnesky, Vincent	Spagnolia, Sylvester Giovanni
Cook, Philemon	Manon, Samuel Sanford	Steinberger, John Adam
Cosner, Robert	McLane, Laughlin	Stuart, Horace Moulton
Davies, David Thomas	Mehrtens, Daniel	Stewart, James Franklin
Farley, James Thompson	Newman, George	Sutherland, William
Fiske, Henry Mortimer	Palmer, Eliphalet Charles	Walther, Otto
Ford, Henry Darnell	Parkinson, Manuel Casado	Whetstone, Wm. Columbus
Hall, Henry Frank	Post, John McDougal	Whitlach, Daniel Henry
Henley, Jonathan Speaker	Poundstone, Laurence Ryd	Wolley, Eliphus Burt
Huse, Samuel Emerson	Purrington, Columbus Allen	—58.

WITHDRAWN :

Axtell, Samuel Beach	Levinsky, Mark	Waldo, Henry Linn—3.
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CALAVERAS CHAPTER, NO. 12.**Snelling, Merced County.***Stated Meetings, second and fourth Wednesdays in each month.***OFFICERS:**

Mark Howell, <i>High Priest</i> ,	Isaac Henry Jacobs, <i>Master of 3d Vail</i> ,
Frederick Becker, <i>King</i> ,	John Alex. Kendrick, <i>Master of 2d Vail</i> ,
Silas March, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Wm. Lewis Silman, <i>Master of 1st Vail</i> ,
William John Hart, <i>Captain of the Host</i> ,	William Adolph Grade, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Peter Dinwiddie Wigginton, <i>Pr. Sojourner</i> ,	William Seaman Weed, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Samuel Mitchell Brown, <i>R. A. Captain</i> ,	William Leland Means, <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests:

Peter Dinwiddie Wigginton,	Charles Macmurdo Blair.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Adams, William
Aiken, John McFee
Bates, Samuel Claghorn
Bradford, Abram Clark
Breen, Nicholas
Delashmutt, Basil
Dickinson, James Johnson

Dickinson, Samuel
Eagleson, Erastus
Fuqua, John Woodson
Hardwick, Wm. Jefferson
James, Henry George
Lebright, Frederick

Meany, Anthony James
Rector, Eldridge Gerry
Scott, Moses Heaton
Wallace, Erastus
Welch, Peyton Young
Welch, Lucilius Arthur

—32.

PAST MASTERS :

Jacob, Elias

Roes, Henry Christopher—2.

WASHINGTON CHAPTER, No. 13.

Marysville, Yuba County.

Stated Meetings, second and fourth Fridays in each month.

OFFICERS :

Charles E. Stone, *High Priest*,
William Fletcher, *King*,
Eli Teegarden, *Scribe*,
John Henry Gerken, *Captain of the Host*,
Arthur Gilman Drake, *Princip'l Sojourner*,
Herman Albert Cook, *Royal Arch Capt.*

Victor Lewis Earnshields, *Master 3d Vail*,
Gavin Walker Hutchins, *Master 2d Vail*,
Samuel Haws Ross, *Master of 1st Vail*,
Marcus Marcuse, *Treasurer*,
James Fred. Eastman, *Secretary*,
Amasa Willey White, *Guard*.

Past High Priests :

William Lee Lawrence,
Norman Dunning Rideout,

Edmund Taylor Wilkins,

Charles E. Stone.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Baird, George Hall
Barrie, John Ferguson
Belcher, Isaac Sawyer
Belcher, William Caldwell
Bigelow, Marcus James
Bingham, Atkins Clark
Binney, Andrew Jackson
Bockius, Charles George
Bourne, George Jessie
Briggs, Joseph Warren
Burchard, John Luther
Bargett, Henry
Buttelman, Frederick
Caldwell, Arthur Brooks
Carpenter, Geo. Washington
Chandler, Melvin Laveni
Cheney, John
Cohen, Isaac
Cohen, William
Cohn, Bernard
Crane, Lemuel Trescott
Cummins, Samuel

Davey, John
Decker, Peter
Dickey, James Thomas
Dobbins, Thomas
Dougall, Thomas
Faulkner, Charles
Filkins, Charles Edward
Fisher, Charles Lester
Foster, John Quincy
Friend, William
Hamlin, Norman Scott
Harrington, Chris. Clark
Harris, Isaac Thompson
Hartwell, William Hiscock
Heath, George
Hochstadter, Simon
Hogle, William Henry
Holland, George
Hollingshead, Jos. Easton
Hudson, Edward Henry
Hudson, William Kendall
Hunter, Enos Clark

Hutchings, Samuel Cole
Hutchinson, Samuel
Irwin, Alexander Cameron
Jackson, William
Jones, William Price
Kent, Thomas Weston
Kernan, Thomas Hugh
Keser, Louis
Keyser, Philip Walter
Lask, Joseph
Logan, Anderson Dabney
Lohse, Hermann
Marcuse, Meyer A.
Marker, Henry Bowman
Mayoux, Antoine
McIlmoil, John
McNutt, John Fleming
Mead, George Purdy
North, George
Parks, William Henry
Patterson, Charles Milton
Patton, John

Richardson, Geo. Strother	Summerland, Theodore	Walker, Louis Phillip
Rogers, Sam'l Josiah Smith	Swain, William Caldwell	Warren, Jonas Halstead
Slingsby, William	Tomb, Jacob	Whitebread, Wm. Cezar
Spear, Andrew Potter	Trayner, James	Wilcoxon, Caleb Elisha
Stafford, Joshua	Tufts, Albert Currier	Wiley, Amasa Parker
Stratton, Cornelius Allen	Walker, Charles Frederick	Woods, Matthew—99.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS :

Belcher, Edward Augustus	Harris, Elisha A.	Spaulding, Frank—3.
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WITHDRAWN :

Crittenden, John Dwight—1.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Arnold, David Elmore	Hatch, Francis Lewis	Merrill, Rufus Rowe—5.
Hamilton, Ebenezer	McDaniel, Richard Harrison	

DIED ;

Hathwell, Charles Aust—1.

HOWARD CHAPTER, NO. 14.

San Jose, Santa Clara County.

Stated Meetings, first Wednesday in each month.

OFFICERS :

William Alex. January, <i>High Priest</i> ,	Henry Harvey Cook, <i>Master of 3d Vail</i> ,
Wilbur Justin Wilcox, <i>King</i> ,	Wm. Nicholas Castle, <i>Master of 2d Vail</i> ,
Samuel Watson Boring, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Isaiah Moyle, <i>Master of 1st Vail</i> ,
Alonzo Babbit Hamilton, <i>Capt. of the Host</i> ,	Return Roberts, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Jeremiah Yancy Brown, <i>Prin. Sojourner</i> ,	Orange Scott May, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Harvey Newton Rice, <i>Royal Arch Captain</i> ,	Hugh Johnson Bradley, <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests:

John Bankson Hewston,	William Alex. January,	George May.
Jared Turner,		

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Allison, William D.	Easterday, Solomon Warren	Mayers, Christian
Andrews, H. L.	Fallon, Thomas	Menefee, Joseph Jefferson
Arnold, Austin	Garraud, Louis	McCluskey, Thomas
Arnold, Charles Henry	Gerdes, John Christian	McDougall, Giles Eggleston
Barling, Harry	Henklebein, Adam	McKenzie, Donald
Bennett, George Edmund	Hollenbeck, Walter M.	McMurtry, William Sharpe
Bishop, Samuel Addison	Holmes, Parker Butterfield	Mildman, Charles R.
Black, James Francis	Houghton, Henry Albert	Morey, Harvey Chapin
Bodley, Thomas	Hoyt, Amasa James	Mott, Richard Fitzallen
Bohen, Daniel	Johnson, Samuel William	Moser, Jacob
Bradlee, Ezra Smith	Jones, Hugh Stevenson	Ohnstein, Oscar
Brothers, Henry	Joyce, William W.	Peacock, Geo. Washington
Brown, James Thomas	Keith, John Matthew	Porter, John T.
Dennis, William	Kupper, Benjamin	Reither, Jacob
Dunshee, Rollin	Lenzen, Theodore	Rowley, Albanus Beliger

Rucker, Joseph Edmondson	Spring, Thaddeus	Warsaw	Warthen, Albert S.
Sargent, James Pattee	Tobin, Michael		Watson, James Hodges
Sexton, William	Tully, Edward C.		Weller, Henry Olph
Spence, Edward Fallis	Tully, Pleasant Briton		Wells, Proctor R.
Sim, George	Vandine, E.		Weymouth, James L.—75.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTER :

Lemon, James—1.

WITHDRAWN :

Hatherway, Daniel F.—1.

CYRUS CHAPTER, NO 15.

Yreka, Siskiyou County.

Stated Meetings, second Tuesday in each month.

OFFICERS:

Alonzo Emery Raynes, <i>High Priest,</i>	Francis Riley, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Elijah Carrick, <i>King,</i>	Louis Monet, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Andrew Jackson Fabricius, <i>Scribe,</i>	Jurgen Osterman, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Curtis Hooper Pyle, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	William McConnell, <i>Treasurer,</i>
James Vance, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	John Morris Walbridge, <i>Secretary,</i>
Josiah Wilson Doten, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	John Nichols Hessenaugh, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Daniel Ream,	James Vance,	Alonzo Emery Raynes.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Brown, Mitchell Alexander	Heard, Elijah Hice	Newton, Joel
Burns, Albert Vanderbilt	Horn, David	Nichols, Henry
Cairo, Isidor	Huseman, Louis	Owens, Alexander
Champlin, Orin	Jones, John Johnson	Pellet, Samuel
Crooks, Andrew Donaldson	Knights, George Horace	Rogers, Franklin Augustus
Dumas, Francis	Lang, Joseph, Jr.	Steward, Samuel Jonathan
Fairchilds, John	Lytle, James Alexander	Wadsworth, Henry
Haserick, Anton	McConaugh, James	—36.

MARK MASTER :

Tompson, John Waldo—1.

WITHDRAWN :

Davis, Charles	Farrington, Stephen	Shaw, David Henry
Diggles, James Alden	Hansen, Hans	Smith, George
Doney, William Kise	McBride, John Walter	Stow, Solomon Erab
Doten, John Silas	Morgan, William Henry	Swain, Abisha
Durand, George	Pfenninger, Herman	Vogan, James—15.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Acuff, Joseph Christopher—1.

DIED:

Peters, William

Potter, Edgar Walcott—2.

*Returns of Subordinate Chapters to the***ST. JAMES CHAPTER, No. 16.****Placerville, El Dorado County.***Stated Meetings, first Wednesday in each month.***OFFICERS :**

George Heirn Gilbert, <i>High Priest,</i>	Marco Verrozza, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Charles Fitzgerald Irwin, <i>King,</i>	Geo. Granville Blanchard, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Charles Broad, <i>Scribe,</i>	Andrew Jackson Kennedy, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Charles Caleb Peirce, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	Guisseppi Rolleri, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Fred. Ferdinand Barss, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	Thomas Fraser, <i>Secretary,</i>
Album James Blakley, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	Charles Joseph Celio, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Frederick Ferdinand Barss,	George Heirn Gilbert,	Robert Chalmers.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Arvidson, Charles John	Gelwicks, Daniel William	Lohry, Adam
Barlow, Geo. Washington	Hammel, Henry	Murry, Nelson Henry
Boop, John Daniel	Hertel, Charles H. E.	Norton, Daniel E.
Caystile, Thomas John	Hopkins, Lemuel B.	Plumado, Frank Hilair
Chalmers, George	Hume, James Bunyan	Taghtmier, Frederick
Christie, Andrew, Jackson	Levan, Daniel Webster	Turman, Byron Isaac
Crowder, Jeremiah Jackson	Levy, Joseph	Van Voorhies, Ralph J.—34.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS :

Dantz, Paul	Mack, George Franklin—2.
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PAST MASTERS :

Miller, Daniel Rice	Phillips, George W.—2.
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WITHDRAWN :

Raphael, Henry D.	Stewart, William Wallace—2.
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SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Baber, Andrew Jackson—1.

LIBANUS CHAPTER, NO. 17.**Iowa Hill, Placer County.***Stated Meetings, Saturday of or next succeeding Full Moon.***OFFICERS :**

William Whipple Poole, <i>High Priest,</i>	Willis Fish Gould, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Adams Barrett, <i>King.</i>	Henry Stemple, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
John Henry Mitchell, <i>Scribe,</i>	John Peter Just, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Edward George Spencer, <i>Capt. of the Host.</i>	John Schmitt, <i>Treasurer,</i>
John Floyd Van Divier, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	John Butler, <i>Secretary,</i>
James Weeks Chinn, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	James Jasper Rich, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

William Clinton Rich,	James Dods,	James Ross.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS.

Cameron, William	Jacobs, James Munroe	Mill, William
Eddings, George Franklin	Jones, Jehoaikim	Smith, Jonathan Mitchell
Develey, Henry K.	Jones, Owen	Smith, William
Hughs, Richard Rogers	Lewis, Robert	White, William K.—27.

PAST MASTER :

Hackett, Chester—1.

MARK MASTERS:

Leighton, Aug. Lord

Mitchell, Edward—2.

GRASS VALLEY CHAPTER, NO. 18.

Grass Valley, Nevada County.

Stated Meetings, first Wednesday in each month.

OFFICERS :

Reuben Leech, <i>High Priest,</i>	Thomas John Michell, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
James Gluyas, <i>King,</i>	Edw. Houston Whiting, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
William Coombe, <i>Scribe,</i>	Wm. Gordon Hudson, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Daniel Kendig, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	William Kenyon Spencer, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Jonathan Converse Clough, <i>Pr. Sojourner,</i>	Charles Henry Mitchell, <i>Secretary,</i>
Henry Randall Stevens, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	Alexander Burnie, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Alfred Barrett Dibble,	Alexander Buchanan Brady,	Reuben Leech.
William McCormick,		

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Anderson, Augustus Peyton	Farrell, James Alexander	Noonan, Patrick
Anderson, Robert	Findley, Thomas	Price, Briscoe Hugh
Angove, John	Fricot, Jules	Rhatigan, John
Baun, John Frederick	Gad, Bernard	Roberts, Edmund Wilson
Binkleman, David	Goad, John Cornelius	Roland, Louis Jerome
Boden, Thomas	Grymes, George Anderson	Sanders, John
Bonivert, Pascal Joseph	Hand, William Dawson	Saxon, Edward
Bryan, John Albion	Halleck, Joseph	Saxon, James
Bryant, William Henry	Hatch, Martin Payne	Simpson, James
Burns, John Thompson	Lathrop, Solomon	Smith, Charles Woolson
Clift, William	Lawrence, John	Stoddard, Alexander
Coleman, Edward	Lowrey, Richard Daniel	Stoddard, Orlando
Coleman, John Crisp	Major, John Newton	Stokes, William Charles
Crocker, John Ross	Mitchell, William Henry	Sullivan, John Lyons
Cross, Thomas	Morris, Jacob	Vincent, George
Delano, Alonzo	Nathan, Benjamin	Walker, Thomas Rolla
Dorsey, John Jacob	Noall, James	Watt, William
Fairhurst, Geo. Washington	Noel, Richard	

—68.

PAST MASTER :

Mansau, Zephaniah—1.

*Returns of Subordinate Chapters to the***MARK MASTERS :**

Coffee, William R.

Weaver, George W.—2.

WITHDRAWN:Goddard, Joseph
Green, Milton

Martin, Joseph

Tremewan, James—4.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Gilham, Samuel Marion—1.

EXPELLED :

Smith, William—1.

DIED :

Glass, Schenck—1.

TRINITY CHAPTER, No. 19.**Weaverville, Trinity County.***Stated Meetings, second and fourth Tuesdays in each month.***OFFICERS :**Wiley James Tinnin, *High Priest,*Gotlieb Frederick Diener, *Master 3d Vail,*Olo Christian Christianson, *King,*David Harden, *Master 2d Vail,*Thomas Love Miller, *Scribe,*Wm. David Sutherlin, *Master 1st Vail,*Jacob Paulsen, *Captain of the Host,*Peter Paterson Black, *Treasurer,*John Clifton Mason, *Principal Sojourner,* Morris Franklin Griffin, *Secretary,*Joel Chilton Wood, *Royal Arch Captain,* John August Charles Goering, *Guard.***Past High Priests:**

Wiley James Tinnin,

John Clifton Mason.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Given, William Cushing

Musser, John

Raab, Louis

McGillivray, Joseph

Pickett, James Madison

Ruch, Michael—18.

FRANKLIN CHAPTER, NO. 20.**Oroville, Butte County.***Stated Meetings, second and fourth Fridays in each month.***OFFICERS :**Thomas Callow, *High Priest,*Louis Simons, *Master 3d Vail,*Charles Fayette Lott, *King,*Wallace Homer Chappel, *Master 2d Vail,*St. John Jackson, *Scribe,*Frank Wagner, *Master 1st Vail,*John Boughton Hewittt *Capt. of the Host,* Frederick John Becker, *Treasurer,*George Henry Crosette, *Prin. Sojourner,* Arthur McDermott, *Secretary,*Patrick Ogilby Hundley, *R. A. Captain,* Abram B. Gallinger, *Guard.***Past High Priests :**

Thomas Callow,

George Clement Perkins,

Thomas Jarrett Jenkins,

Charles Fayette Lott,

Arthur McDermott,

George Henry Crosette.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Beall, John	Harris, Jahial	Ruggles, Elijah Starr
Block, Joseph	Heintz, Thibaud	Sparks, Ebenezer Morrison
Branscomb, John	Hida, Jehu	Stearns, Amos Kies
Buchanan, Philander	Mitchell, John Constantine	Vance, James Munroe
Burroughs, Charles	Perkins, David King	Wells, Michael Henry
Dyer, George Washington	Plum, Nathaniel Dunbar	West, Miers Barton
Faulkner, Thomas	Rollins, Daniel Fletcher	Young, Henry G.—35.

MARK MASTERS :

Kenney, John Leander Spaulding, Andrew Jackson—2.

PAST MASTERS :

Jackson, Bean Scharline, Louis—2.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS :

Glass, Louis Logan, James Parker, Ralzemond—3.

WITHDRAWN :

Hamlin, George Lawrence Hassinger, Andrew Jackson—2.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Berry, John S. Dempsey, John J. Wardwell, James A.—3.

DIED :

Grosvenor, Daniel Wells—1.

SIERRA CHAPTER, No. 21.

Downieville, Sierra County.

Stated Meetings, Saturday of or next preceding Full Moon.

OFFICERS :

William Thompson Luther, <i>High Priest</i> ,	Joseph Berg, <i>Master 3d Vail</i> ,
Benjamin Pauly, <i>King</i> ,	Valentine Hartling, <i>Master 2d Vail</i> ,
James Brown Crooks, <i>Scribe</i> ,	George O. Martin, <i>Master 1st Vail</i> ,
Alexander Thom, <i>Captain of the Host</i> ,	Ernst Kruse, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Washington Cicero Doud, <i>Prin. Sojourner</i> ,	William Ryan, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Hiram George Wier, <i>Royal Arch Captain</i> ,	Samuel Alleman, <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests:

Henry Warner,	William Thompson Luther,
Washington Cicero Doud,	Edwin Ransom Davis.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Abbey, George Henry	Farish, William Adam	Purdy, Henry Haddon
Asher, Alex. Branch	Grippen, Erastus Mortimer	Riley, William Eugene
Bernhard, Lewis	Gunsolus, William Henry	Ross, John
Busch, August Christopher	Hanley, William A.	Shawness, John
Corcoran, James	Koutz, John	Stewart, Samuel Curtis
Crane, Lauren Elliot	Langstaff, Matthew	Thatcher, Peter
Creveling, Elemuel N. L.	Parsons, Nathan	Thomas, Henry
Eschbacker, Frantz Antoine	Peacock, James Richard	Wilkins, William—38.

PAST MASTERS:

Davis, Willet Charles

Picken, Alexander—2.

WITHDRAWN :

Corbett, Miles S.

Pratt, Leonidas E.

Purdy, Solomon—3.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Higgins, Edward

Jump, Alembry

Smith, Thomas—3.

DIED :

Black, Alexander

Reynolds, Lewis

Silverwood, John—3.

PETALUMA CHAPTER, No. 22.**Petaluma, Sonoma County.***Stated Meetings, first and third Mondays in each month.***OFFICERS:**Oscar Valentine Walker, *High Priest,*James Huline Knowles, *Master 3d Vail,*William Carpenter, *King,*Achille Kahn, *Master 2d Vail,*Asahel Adams Bean, *Scribe,*Alexander Lackey, *Master 1st Vail,*Hiram Fayette Taft, *Captain of the Host,*Joseph Martin Bowles, *Treasurer,*Benjamin Franklin Tuttle, *Pr. Sojourner,*Josiah Horace Crane, *Secretary,*John Boyd Christie, *Royal Arch Captain,*James Singley, *Guard.***Past High Priests:**

James Singley,

Joshua Lester Bond,

Thomas Jefferson Graham,

Benjamin Franklin Tuttle.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Anderson, James Wright

Goshen, Marcus Dyatheka

Pierce, Abram Jewell

Anderson, Wm. Lafayette

Hanbrick, Leonard

Polk, Charles Ephraim

Biehler, William

Heineken, Hiram Albert

Preston, Richard Milne

Carder, Dennison Delos

Holden, William

Ross, William

Clouetts, Henry Felix

Hoffman, Adam Joseph

Schroyer, Aaron

Conrad, Simon

Huie, John Thompson

Shaver, John

Cox, William Emery

Jorgenson, Jess

Shone, Thomas

Dreyfuss, Edward

Kuffel, Isaac

Stockwell, Murenos Vincent

Fairbanks, Hiram Tobbert

Maguire, James Foster

Tempel, Conrad

Farley, Francis Hall

M. lott, Leonard Coatsworth

Thompson, Jefferson

Galvin, Micah Jonah C.

Merritt, John

Todd, William

Gerlock, Lewis

Miner, Welcome Ephraim

Wands, James—50.

WITHDRAWN :

Bond, William Hammet

Hays, Robert Kirtley

Nace, Edward Joseph

Farmer, Elijah Thompson

Hendley, John

Overton, Albert Perry—6.

EXCLUDED :

Huie, George William.

OLIVER CHAPTER, No. 23.

Forest Hill, Placer County.

Stated Meetings, Thursday of or next preceding Full Moon.

OFFICERS :

Ambrose Hall Cowden, <i>High Priest,</i>	Peyton Powell, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Joseph Trail Middleton, <i>King,</i>	Martin Barnum Tubbs, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
George Washington Morton, <i>Scribe,</i>	James Borland, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Joel Franklin Smith, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Jacob Lock Weker, <i>Treasurer,</i>
James Russell Glover, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	Jacob Warwick Byrd, <i>Secretary,</i>
John Tickle, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Franklin Walker Allen, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Russell Parkhurst,	James Russell Glover.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Allen, John E.	Goff, Abner W.	Nelson, Edward Peter
Breece, Abram	Hosmer, Daniel Mansfield	Penman, Wm. Alexander
Carter, John Franklin	Hosmer, Thomas Norwood	Shain, Warren Cassius
Cox, Richard	Huntley, Ashley	Shields, William Sterret
Cravens, Robert Oscar	Johnson, Magnies	White, Walter Raleigh
Davis, John Floyd	Jones, John D.	Willard, Simeon Sylvester
Dewey, Charles Hitchcock	Krysher, William	Williams, Richard
Fast, John Henry Adolph	Lind, Charles	—36.

LA FAYETTE CHAPTER, No. 24.

Camptonville, Yuba County.

Stated Meetings, Wednesday of or next preceding Full Moon.

OFFICERS :

Richard Munt, <i>High Priest,</i>	Silas Sherman Baker, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
William Walker Gibson, <i>King,</i>	Isaac Elias, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
William Alex. Meek, <i>Scribe,</i>	John Henry Beaman, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Charles O'Hara, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Josiah Perkins Brown, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Benj. Threlkeld O'Rear, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	Stephen Spencer, <i>Secretary,</i>
Valentine Cook McMurray, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	Peter Russell, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Josiah Perkins Brown,	Joshua Hutchings Variel,	Valentine Cook McMurray.
Richard Munt,	Benj. Threlkeld O'Rear,	

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Arnott, James	Landecker, David Henry	Walton, Geo. Washington
Baxter, John		—17.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTER :

Mansur, Carlos Frederick—1.

PAST MASTERS :

Baker, Richard	Calvin, David—2.
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SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Dickenson, Barney Hawley—1.

PAST MASTERS:

Davis, Willet Charles

Picken, Alexander—2.

WITHDRAWN :

Corbett, Miles S.

Pratt, Leonidas E.

Purdy, Solomon—3.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Higgins, Edward

Jump, Alembry

Smith, Thomas—3.

DIED :

Black, Alexander

Reynolds, Lewis

Silverwood, John—3.

PETALUMA CHAPTER, No. 22.**Petaluma, Sonoma County.***Stated Meetings, first and third Mondays in each month.***OFFICERS:**Oscar Valentine Walker, *High Priest,*James Huline Knowles, *Master 3d Vail,*William Carpenter, *King,*Achille Kahn, *Master 2d Vail,*Asahel Adams Bean, *Scribe,*Alexander Lackey, *Master 1st Vail,*Hiram Fayette Taft, *Captain of the Host,*Joseph Martin Bowles, *Treasurer,*Benjamin Franklin Tuttle, *Pr. Sojourner,*Josiah Horace Crane, *Secretary,*John Boyd Christie, *Royal Arch Captain,*James Singley, *Guard.***Past High Priests:**

James Singley,

Joshua Lester Bond,

Thomas Jefferson Graham,

Benjamin Franklin Tuttle.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Anderson, James Wright

Goshen, Marcus Dyatheka

Pierce, Abram Jewell

Anderson, Wm. Lafayette

Haubrick, Leonard

Polk, Charles Ephraim

Biehler, William

Heineken, Hiram Albert

Preston, Richard Milne

Carder, Dennison Delos

Holden, William

Ross, William

Clouetts, Henry Felix

Hoffman, Adam Joseph

Schroyer, Aaron

Conrad, Simon

Huie, John Thompson

Shaver, John

Cox, William Emery

Jorgenson, Jess

Shone, Thomas

Dreyfuss, Edward

Kuffel, Isaac

Stockwell, Murenos Vincent

Fairbanks, Hiram Tobbert

Maguire, James Foster

Tempel, Conrad

Farley, Francis Hall

M ilott, Leonard Coatsworth

Thompson, Jefferson

Galvin, Micah Jonah C.

Merritt, John

Todd, William

Gerlock, Lewis

Miner, Welcome Ephraim

Wands, James—50.

WITHDRAWN :

Bond, William Hammet

Hays, Robert Kirtley

Nace, Edward Joseph

Farmer, Elijah Thompson

Hendley, John

Overton, Albert Perry—6.

EXCLUDED :

Huie, George William.

OLIVER CHAPTER, No. 23.

Forest Hill, Placer County.

Stated Meetings, Thursday of or next preceding Full Moon.

OFFICERS :

Ambrose Hall Cowden, <i>High Priest,</i>	Peyton Powell, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Joseph Trail Middleton, <i>King,</i>	Martin Barnum Tubbs, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
George Washington Morton, <i>Scribe,</i>	James Borland, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Joel Franklin Smith, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Jacob Lock Weker, <i>Treasurer,</i>
James Russell Glover, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	Jacob Warwick Byrd, <i>Secretary,</i>
John Tickle, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Franklin Walker Allen, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Russell Parkhurst,

James Russell Glover.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Allen, John E.	Goff, Abner W.	Nelson, Edward Peter
Breece, Abram	Hosmer, Daniel Mansfield	Penman, Wm. Alexander
Carter, John Franklin	Hosmer, Thomas Norwood	Shain, Warren Cassius
Cox, Richard	Huntley, Ashley	Shields, William Sterret
Cravens, Robert Oscar	Johnson, Maguies	White, Walter Raleigh
Davis, John Floyd	Jones, John D.	Willard, Simeon Sylvester
Dewey, Charles Hitchcock	Krysher, William	Williams, Richard
Fast, John Henry Adolph	Lind, Charles	

—36.

LA FAYETTE CHAPTER, No. 24.

Camptonville, Yuba County.

Stated Meetings, Wednesday of or next preceding Full Moon.

OFFICERS :

Richard Munt, <i>High Priest,</i>	Silas Sherman Baker, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
William Walker Gibson, <i>King,</i>	Isaac Elias, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
William Alex. Meek, <i>Scribe,</i>	John Henry Beaman, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Charles O'Hara, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Josiah Perkins Brown, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Benj. Threlkeld O'Rear, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	Stephen Spencer, <i>Secretary,</i>
Valentine Cook McMurray, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	Peter Russell, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Josiah Perkins Brown,	Joshua Hutchings Variel,	Valentine Cook McMurray.
Richard Munt,	Benj. Threlkeld O'Rear,	

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Arnott, James	Landecker, David Henry	Walton, Geo. Washington
Baxter, John		—17.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTER :

Mansur, Carlos Frederick—1.

PAST MASTERS :

Baker, Richard Calvin, David—2.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Dickenson, Barney Hawley—1.

GEORGETOWN CHAPTER, No. 25.**Georgetown El Dorado County.***Stated Meetings, Saturday of or next succeeding Full Moon.***OFFICERS :**

George Washington Hunter, <i>High Priest</i> ,	James Moon, <i>Master 3d Vail</i> ,
George Washington Simpers, <i>King</i> ,	Rinaldo Fillippini, <i>Master 2d Vail</i> ,
William Carey Anderson, <i>Scribe</i> ,	John Jay Lawyer, <i>Master 1st Vail</i> ,
John Dodd Skinner, <i>Captain of the Host</i> ,	Elijah Harper Watson, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Harvey Kelly, <i>Principal Sojourner</i> ,	Richard Doncaster, Jr., <i>Secretary</i> ,
Isaac Priestly Jackson, <i>R. A. Captain</i> ,	Charles Langley, <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests :

Richard Doncaster, Jr.,	John Ernest Kunkler,	Henry Warren Russell.
William Roush,		

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Alden, Samuel Jemmison	Davison, John P.	McNevin, Henry Patrick
Armstrong, Thomas Z.	Downs, John L.	Nye, Samuel Porter
Bassi, Giosue	Dunahoo, Wm. Washington	Pedrini, Cipriano
Beattie, George	Epps, Tinsley Burton	Pedrini, Massimino
Benjamin, De Witt C.	Fleishman, Jacob	Spencer, Willis Eugene
Berry, Solomon Adam	Hawks, Zeeb Cortez	Wade, John
Carter, John E.	Lagerson, Frederick	Wiley, Reuben Rich
Crawford, Ellison Lassell	Markle, John Alexander	—38.

EXCLUDED :

Doncaster, Samuel	Prince, Daniel—2.
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DIED :

McMurray, James Douglass—1.

OAKLAND CHAPTER, No. 26.**Oakland, Alameda County.***Stated Meetings, first and third Thursdays in each month.***OFFICERS :**

Thatcher Peter Wales, <i>High Priest</i> ,	William H. Irwin, <i>Master 3d Vail</i> ,
George Mansfield Blake, <i>King</i> ,	Willy H. Trogden, <i>Master 2d Vail</i> ,
Christian Bagge, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Harry Elisha Hitchcock, <i>Master 1st Vail</i> ,
William Burt Clayton, <i>Captain of the Host</i> ,	Jeremiah Elken Whitcher, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Benjamin Akerly, <i>Principal Sojourner</i> ,	———, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Samuel Hirshberg, <i>Royal Arch Captain</i> ,	Walter Prosser, (not a member,) <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests :

Jeremiah Elken Whitcher,	Benjamin Akerly,	George Mansfield Blake.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Ayers, William Henry	Bell, Samuel Bookstaver,	Carrick, John Willard
Bagley, William Patrick	Block, Emanuel David	Chapman, Lemuel G.
Beazell, James	Brown, Rosenwell Jackson	Chisholm, John
Becht, Joseph	Caddy, John	Cooley, James Munro

Cooms, Henry	Havens, Henry Herman	Rector, Ledwell James
Cordes, Paul Henry	Henninger, Frederick	Searing, William
Crane, William Watrous	Hillebrand, Henry	Shattuck, Francis K.
Cushing, Clinton	Hobbs, Levit Moses	Shimon, John Lewis
Delger, Frederick	Howe, Micha Mead	Smith, Elzaphan Ithamon
Dieves, Joseph	Jansen, Ernest F. George	Snider, Lyman Nutt
Elliott, Matthew	Kyte, James Carter	Tickner, Daniel
Evers, John Henry	Lentell, James	Van Voorhies, William
Fenn, John Lewis	Mann, Benj. Franklin	Warner, Franklin
Gabb, William Moor	Maloon, Benjamin	Watkins, Leonard
Geischen, John	McMillen, Robert	Watson, William O.
Greenwood, Jacob	Minor, James O.	Wheelan, Alanson
Harwood, Wm. Douglass	Nolan, Stephen	Zabel, Julius—61.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS :

Brooks, Frank Howard	Grosso, Constantine	Irwin, John Clarke—4.
Carlton, George		

PAST MASTER :

Reed, Charles H.—1.

WITHDRAWN :

McKee, Samuel Bell	Michelson, Isaac Emmet	Miner, James Macklin—3.
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SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Beal, Rufus, Jr.	Estrado, Frederick	Seddon, James—3.
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DELTA CHAPTER, No. 27.

Auburn, Placer County.

Stated Meetings, Thursday of or next preceding Full Moon.

OFFICERS :

Benjamin Franklin Myres, <i>High Priest</i> ,	William George Greene, <i>Master 3d Vail</i> ,
George Washington Applegate, <i>King</i> ,	Gera Bretten Predmore, <i>Master 2d Vail</i> ,
William Henry Mullen, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Benj'n Dulaney Dunham, <i>Master 1st Vail</i> ,
John Riggs Crandall, <i>Captain of the Host</i> ,	Francis Antone Lux, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Edward Guy Smith, <i>Principal Sojourner</i> ,	David Waldemer Lubeck, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Edward Frederick Holley, <i>R. A. Captain</i> ,	Thomas Jamison, <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests :

John Riggs Crandall,	Benjamin Franklin Myres.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Harper, Thomas Burell	Pratt, Jonathan Davis	Stonecipher, Isaac
Hellwig, Charles	Rusing, Edward S.	Waldron, Mahlon
Laven, James Andrew	Shepard, Michael Harper	Wardwell, Jarius Vespasian
McBride, John		—22.

PAST MASTER:

McGuire, Lucius—1.

RESTORED :

Elliot, Simon G.—1.

WITHDRAWN :

Elliot, Simon G.—1.

STOCKTON CHAPTER, No. 28.**Stockton, San Joaquin County.***Stated Meetings, fourth Tuesday in each month.***OFFICERS:**

Thomas Kent Hook, <i>High Priest</i> ,	Jno. Rob't Scott Jackson, <i>Master 3d Vail</i> ,
Alexander Chalmers, <i>King</i> ,	Edward Scott, <i>Master 2d Vail</i> ,
Joseph Mills Cavis, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Philip Thomas Brown, <i>Master 1st Vail</i> ,
George Alex. McKenzie, <i>Capt. of the Host</i> ,	Edward Richard Hedges, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Willard Franklin Fletcher, <i>Pr. Sojourner</i> ,	Lemuel Elisha Lyon, <i>Secretary</i> ,
William Graham, <i>Royal Arch Captain</i> ,	Thomas Driver, <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests :

Isaac Stevens Titus, <i>P. G. H. P.</i>	Timothy Winn Newell
William Abraham Davis, <i>P. D. G. H. P.</i>	Gilbert Burnett Claiborne,
Royal Bellows Parker,	Edward Richard Hedges.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS.

Bargion, Peter	Fraser, Philip Barry	Sargent, Henry Sumner
Barada, Laurent	Grissim, Henry	Sedgwick, John
Belding, Charles	Hickman, Edward	Seilnacht, Frank
Beritzhoff, Alex. Charles	Hodgkins, Henry	Selden, James Richard
Bertrand, Louis	Houston, William James	Shaw, Henry Coffin
Bond, Morris Hartwell	Hume, James	Shurtleff, Geo. Augustus
Brutschy, Charles	Ireland, Elias	Smith, Geo. Falkenborough
Burkett, Alexander	Ivory, Charles Oscar	Smith, James Caldwell
Caino, John	Kelsey, John Milton	Stamper, William B.
Choate, Thomas Baker	Keeler, William Henry	Stevens, Eben Shepard
Cooper, Calvin Savage	Kingsley, James Forman	Stewart, Frank
Cutting, Lewis Morrison	Langford, Benj. Franklin	Stockton, Elias Alonzo
Daniels, James Moore	Littlehale, James	Swain, Cornelius
Dorrance, Henry Tully	Milco, Nicola	Taylor, Ed. Hy. Courtnay
Dyke, Ozro D.	Misener, Norman Sumner	Thresher, Minord Sprague
Eldridge, Edward Duane	Mountjoy, George Lewis	Tilghman, George
Eldridge, Samuel	Munter, August Fred. Wm.	Vance, John Anderson
Elliott, Lyman Weston	Orr, Nelson Mills	Wilhoit, Roley Early
Ely, Benjamin Ezra Stiles	Peters, Joseph D.	Wilson, Thomas
Evans, George Spofford	Roberts, John Arthur	Zimmerman, John A—79.
Fanning, Howard Malcom	Roseman, Frederick	

MOST EXCELENT MASTER :

Kirkland, William—1.

PAST MASTERS:

Campbell, Washington Lafayette Harrold, Nathaniel Siggons—2.

WITHDRAWN :

Rothenbush, Peter—1.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Daly, John Meinecke, Frederick Sheeran, John—3.

EXCLUDED :

Seldner, Jacob Joseph—1.

MANZANITA CHAPTER, No. 29.

North San Juan, Nevada County.

Stated Meetings, first Friday in each month.

OFFICERS:

John Storer McBride, <i>High Priest,</i>	John McCoy, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
George Cummings Spooner, <i>King,</i>	Henry Hudson Rich, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
John Thomas Morgan, <i>Scribe,</i>	Patrick Henry Butler, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Reginald Powell, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	John Ambrose Seely, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Elias Bramon Harris, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Martin Van Buren Chapman, <i>Secretary,</i>
Frank Napoleon Morris, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	William Dunning, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

John Ambrose Seely,	John Benedict Hunter,
George Washington Perkins,	John Storer McBride.
Joseph Cook,	

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Allinburg, Charles	Fitter, John	McNulty, Henry
Atwater, Henry	Freeman, Thomas	Noblet, William Berry
Ayer, Leonard Barney	Furth, Jacob	Ovett, Alonzo Willis
Beard, James Edward	Getchell, Hiram	Phillips, Reuben
Bell, Vincent George	Henderson, David	Pollard, Charles Joseph
Buhring, Louis	Hillard, Samuel Robert	Redington, James
Cadwallader, Niram	Huff, William	Stone, John
Chisholm, James	Inder, Job Staples	Swan, Anson Burlingame
Cooke, Joseph Bailey	Ipson, Hans	Treanor, James McWade
Cull, Henry	Jepson, Jacob	Trood, William
Cull, Richard Camron	McCullough, James	Tucker, Joseph Bernard
Cunard, James Henry	McDonald, Andrew Jackson	Westerfield, Wm. Jackson
Effinger, John Henry	McMurry, Robert	

— 53.

PAST MASTER :

Bank, Frederick—1.

WITHDRAWN:

Abbott, Charles Atwood

Powell, Sidney—2.

EXCLUDED :

Kinney, Henry Lee—1.

NAPA CHAPTER, NO. 30.

Napa, Napa County.

Stated Meetings, second and fourth Fridays in each month.

OFFICERS:

Henry Hay Knapp, <i>High Priest,</i>	William Henry Holliday, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Beeby Robinson, <i>King,</i>	David Leopold Haas, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Dimsdill Burr Carver, <i>Scribe,</i>	Lewis Marion Corwin, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
William Andrews, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Peter Van Bever, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Robert Crouch, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Henry Conrad Horstmeyer, <i>Secretary,</i>
Daniel Burrell Parks, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	Amos Smith Knapp, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Henry Hay Knapp,

Robert Crouch,

Ralph Ellis.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Armstutz, Henry Louis

Blake, Charles Morris

Briggs, Sebra

Brown, William Reed

Clark, Samuel Gilman

Davis, James Richardson

Ellis, Frederick Plummer

Everts, Charles Nicholas

Fisher, William Frederick

Ford, George Wellman

Getz, Marcus

Greer, Thomas

Mecklenburg, Joseph

Olmstead, George Henry

Ritchie, Silas

Sampson, Andrew

Sayward, James Wheaton

Smith, Wm. Corb Schanck

Sterling, Robert Henry

Stillwagon, Wm. Wilson

Tucker, Thomas Jefferson

Wines, Charles Buckley

Wright, John Ripley

—36.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS:

Hoover, John

Jackson, John A.—2.

RESTORED:

Stillwagon, William Wilson—1.

EXCLUDED:

Brown, Edgar

Farmer, William—2.

MARTINEZ CHAPTER, NO. 31.**Martinez, Contra Costa County.***Stated Meetings, Monday of or next preceding Full Moon.***OFFICERS:**Lewis Cass Wittenmeyer, *High Priest,*Daniel Fraser, *King,*Solomon Newberger, *Scribe,*Wm. Henry Buckley, *Captain of the Host,*Isidor Weiss, *Principal Sojourner,*Thomas Allen Brown, *R. A. Captain,*John Tucker, *Master of 3d Vail,*Barry Baldwin, *Master of 2d Vail,*Ernest Del Place, *Master of 1st Vail,*Simon Blum, *Treasurer,*George Atwood Sherman, *Secretary,*———, *Guard.***Past High Priests:**

Warren Brown,

Thomas Allen Brown,

Hiram Mills,

William Morrill Hale,

Lewis Cass Wittenmeyer.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Doughty, William

Fassett, Harry Wallbridge

Gallagher, Henry Clay

Girvan, William

Gray, James

Hard, Roswell Burt

Lambert, Hiram

Mathews, Felix A.

Moore, John Adams

O'Brien, John Conlin

Ruggles, Charles Augustus

Shepard, Mark

Shreeve, Benjamin

Slitz, John

Troy, John Henry

Turner, Benjamin Coffin

Wall, George

Wiggins, George—32.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTER:

Walker, James Toomay—1.

MARK MASTER:

Fernandez, Bernardo—1.

WITHDRAWN:

Bradbury, William I.

Classen, Henry—2.

DIED:

Swain, George A.—1.

LOS ANGELES CHAPTER, No. 33.

Los Angeles, Los Angeles County.

Stated Meetings, second Monday in each month.

OFFICERS :

Henry Sayre Orme, <i>High Priest</i> ,	Moritz Morris, <i>Master 3d Vail</i> ,
Francis Pliny Fisk Temple, <i>King</i> ,	George Rawson Butler, <i>Master 2d Vail</i> ,
Samuel Prager, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Christ'r Columbus Higby, <i>Master 1st Vail</i> ,
Samuel Calvert Foy, <i>Captain of the Host</i> ,	Samuel Mayer, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Thomas Edwin Rowan, <i>Prin. Sojourner</i> ,	William Henry Archibald Kidd, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Henry Nicholas Brunning, <i>R. A. Captain</i> .	Herman Neidecken, <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests:

Abraham Wolf Edelman,	John Quincy Adams Stanley.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Allanson, Horace Storey	Hewitt, Eldridge Ed.	Narbonne, Nath'l Andrew
Bennett, Silas	Holmes, Arthur Child	Parcels, Horatio Sutton
Bicknell, Jas. Witherspoon	Holmes, James Gilmore	Phelps, Elihu Charles
Buffum, William Mansfield	Horan, Andrew	Portugal, Adolph
Burdick, Thomas H.	Jackson, Robert Everett	Rich, Joseph Anderson
Barrows, Henry Dwight	Jacobs, Lewis	Reed, John
Brunson, Anson	Jacoby, Herman	Reiser, Theodore
Burns, James Franklin	Jacoby, Nathan	Reynolds, John Jefferson
Casad, Thomas	Jaeger, Lewis J. F.	Rolfe, Horace Cowen
Chapman, William Smyth	Johnson, Phillip Frederick	Sainsevain, Michel
Davis, Philip	Kohler, Henry	Stanway, Thomas S.
Downey, John Gately	Lambourne, Fred.	Sweetzer, Charles Corodin
Eberling, Christian Ludovic	Lazzarovich, John	Thompson, Peter
Glenn, James Newton	Lecouvreur, Frank	Weill, Jacob
Goller, John	Levy, Michel	Weston, Benjamin S.
Hamilton, Henry	Martin, William Thomas	Workman, William
Hammel, Henry		

—63.

PAST MASTERS:

Ducommun, Charles Louis	Michaelis, Marcus—2.
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SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Fleishman, Gustave—1.

DIED :

Clement, Michael—1.

ALTURAS CHAPTER, NO. 34.

La Porte, Plumas County.

Stated Meetings, first Saturday in each month.

OFFICERS :

Elias Anderson, <i>High Priest</i> ,	August Frederick Robson, <i>Master 3d Vail</i> ,
Peter R. Meikle, <i>King</i> ,	Greenleaf Greeley Clough, <i>Master 2d Vail</i> ,
John Hiram Thomas, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Benj. Jacob Sammons, <i>Master 1st Vail</i> ,
John Preston Lloyd, <i>Captain of the Host</i> ,	Benjamin Wilcox Barnes, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Roderick Sutherland, <i>Prin. Sojourner</i> ,	Dixon Brabban, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Mark Schofield, <i>Royal Arch Captain</i> ,	John Frederick Shultz, <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests:

Abel McFarland, Benjamin Wilcox Barnes, Nathan Hosmer Stone.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Brewster, Saml. Thompson,	Hill, Maxwell Gaddis	Small, Jacob
Chittenden, Henry Hatfield	Jenkins, John Wesley	Smith, Charles
Crew, Alexander Hill	Jones, Joseph Luckman	Stone, Edwin
Descombes, Francis	Meikle, William	Stover, John Emmet
Douglass, John	Patterson, George	Ward, William—31.
Hendel, Charles Henry	Schofield, Miles	

PAST MASTER:

Ruppert, Charles—1.

WITHDRAWN:

Hart, Anthony Henry Robinson, John Rose—2.

NAVAL CHAPTER, No. 35.

Vallejo, Solano County.

Stated Meetings, second Wednesday in each month.

OFFICERS:

Alex. Hopkins Hichborn, <i>High Priest</i> ,	Thos. Jefferson Crowley, <i>Master 3d Vail</i> ,
Charles Daly, <i>King</i> ,	John Brownlie, <i>Master of 2d Vail</i> ,
Jonathan Bond, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Edmund McLees, <i>Master of 1st Vail</i> ,
Jos. Collins Edgcombe, <i>Captain of the Host</i> ,	Edward Thompson Starr, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Philip And'w Doyle, <i>Prinicipal Sojourner</i> ,	Frank Worthy Cushing, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Ensign Kimball Holmes, <i>Royal Arch Capt.</i>	Henry Stahl, <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests:

John Mills Browne, Philip Andrew Doyle, Osgood Hilton.
Mattison Myers,

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Benas, Benjamin	Haas, Solomon Leon	Rothenbusch, Peter
Brown, Frank Edward	Hallin, Christian Theo. B.	Rounds, George
Brown, Roswell Homer	Higson, Frederick Delmer	Rutherford, David
Bruce, Henry	Hilborn, Samuel Greely	Snow, Hiram King
Burmeister, Fred'k Martin	Hillier, Herman Theodore	Thompson, John
Carter, James	Hilton, Eben	Titcomb, John Locke
Carter, William	Hogan, James Rines	Toothaker, Harvey Purinton
Chandler, Robert	Mallett, George Fayette	Topley, James
Drake, Frank	Morse, Charles Alonzo	Tripp, William Henry
Dyer, Columbia	Phillips, James	Voorhees, Albert Parsons
Falls, Richard James	Plaisted, George Pomroy	Wilkins, James Malcolm
Frey, John	Porter, Thomas Alexander	Willats, Edward Albert
Frisby, William Edward	Powell, Abraham	Wilson, Albion Paris
Garland, Francis	Robinson, Jno. Buckingham	Wilson, William C.
Guffy, Alexander	Root, William Champion	Wright, Gilbert Lafayette
Gunning, Alfred Henry	Ross, David Campbell	—61.

RESTORED:

Rideout, Albert Thackster—1.

WITHDRAWN :

Atkinson, George Frederick Miller, Rudolph Rideout, Albert Thackster
Michael, George Washington Moden, Erick Gabriel —5.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Harkison, Charles Harrington, Daniel Henderson, Orrington Lunt—3.

ALAMEDA CHAPTER, NO. 36.

Oakland, Alameda County.

Stated Meetings, second and fourth Thursdays in each month.

OFFICERS :

Nathan Weston Spaulding, <i>High Priest,</i>	Oscar L. C. Fairchild, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Walter Laidlaw, <i>King,</i>	Thomas Jefferson Arnold, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Enoch Homer Pardee, <i>Scribe,</i>	George York Lo'ing, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Calvin Call Knowles, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Charles H. F. Braun, <i>Treasurer,</i>
James Johnson Porter, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	James Edward Ingols, <i>Secretary,</i>
Thomas Hamil Pinkerton, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	William Bowker Ingersoll, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Joseph Bonaparte Scotchler,	John Barton Harden,
Alpheus Fuller Williams,	Nathan Weston Spaulding.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Allardt, George Frederick	Graham, William Morrow	Miller, William Henry
Batchelder, James	Gurnett, William James	Miller, William Noble
Bigelow, Henry Holmes	Hamilton, Laurentine	Murphy, Thomas John
Benton, John Elliott	Harmon, John Brown	Palmer, Charles Theo. Hart
Campbell, Fred'k McLean	Haven, Charles Dwight	Pasmore, Edward James
Chappellet, Felix	Havens, John Franklin	Reichling, Francis
Cunningham, Parlan R.	Hawsett, Arthur Wellington	Rutherford, Chas. Boardman
Craib, William	Healy, Jesse	Shorey, Albert
Crawford, John William	Howard, Charles Webb	Smith, James Dale
Cushing, John	Lagrange, Oscar Hugh	Tarbett, Foster Berry
Duncan, James Wesley	Laing, John	Tubbs, Hiram
Durant, Henry	Lamp'ng, Peter A.	Van Dyke, Walter
Dusenberry, Myr. Thompson	Lufkin, Joseph	Walker, George Russell
Dwinelle, John Whipple	Martin, Joseph	Ward, Robert
Elliot, Washington	Marston, Benjamin Sewall	Warner, Alex. Lafayette
Emery, Joseph Stickney	Mather, Solon Henry	Watson, John Braddock
Felton, John Brook	Mathews, Henry Edward	Webber, Mack
Goodrich, John Van Buren	Miller, J. Frank	Whitney, George Edwin
Gordon, Jas. Smith Gilman	Miller, Robert Baird	—71.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS :

Bartlett, Pliny	Case, Isham	Whedon, James Thomas—3.
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MARK MASTER :

Collins, Albert William—1.

WITHDRAWN :

Denis, Samuel William	Fuller, A. L.—2.
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EXCLUDED :

Smith, George Frank	Stewart, James T.—2.
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SILOAM CHAPTER, No. 37.**Colfax, Placer County.***Stated Meetings, second and fourth Tuesdays in each month.***OFFICERS:**

Melvyn Syms Gardner, <i>High Priest,</i>	Octavius King Cloudman, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
James Beverly Hodgdon, <i>King,</i>	Leland Cadjew, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Alexander Gibson Oliver, <i>Scribe,</i>	Ephraim Mariner Thomas, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
David Wright Willard, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	William Barrows Hayford, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Wanton Alfred Himes, <i>Prino'l Sojourner,</i>	William Bainbridge Storey, <i>Secretary,</i>
Leopold Lobner, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Rufus Jenkins Tolman, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priest :Jacob Hart Neff, *G. H. P.***ROYAL ARCH MASONS :**

Allen, Lorenzo Thomas	Holmes, James	Osborn, Robert Smith
Blanchard, Nathan Weston	Kopp, Charles Mann	Parks, James Harvey
Bradley, Elisha Lafayette	Kruger, William Henry	Peden, Albert Oliver
Coffins, Isaac Tibbits	Le Kamp, John Henry	Thomas, John Young
Endean, William	Murphy, Bernard	Vincent, Nicholas
Hackett, Henry	Nichols, Thomas Jefferson	—30.

PAST MASTERS :

Lobner, Morris

Osborn, Watson Brown—2.

SANTA CRUZ CHAPTER, No. 38.**Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz County.***Stated Meetings, second and fourth Tuesdays in each month.***OFFICERS:**

John Murray Brown, <i>High Priest,</i>	Wm. Nelson Cummings, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Pierce Bye Fagan, <i>King,</i>	William Ely, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
William Felker, <i>Scribe,</i>	Richard Harrison Hall, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Bernhart Wise, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Samuel Arnold Bartlett, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Henson Poland, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Edward Bender, <i>Secretary,</i>
Jacob Parsons, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Edmund Wellington, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priest :

John Nelson Besse.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Anthony, George	Fitch, Edwin	McKienan, Charles
Blackburn, Daniel Drew	Grant, John	Simon, Ephraim Israel
Blakeley, Samuel Wallace	Hinds, David	Skinner, Henry
Chase, John Day	Hinds, Peter Richmond	Smith, John Morgan
Collins, George Ulmer	Lake, George Peter	Williams, Edward Lawrence
Daubenbiss, John	Lincoln, Charles Henry	—30.

PAST MASTER:

Thompson, Richard—1.

WITHDRAWN :

Fake, George John
Haynes, Philip Lyman

Horr, James Cortland
Johnson, Frederick—4.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:

Jones, Lorenzo Allen

Rawson, Asa Warren—2.

DONNER CHAPTER, NO. 39.

Truckee, Nevada County.

Stated Meetings, first and third Mondays in each month.

OFFICERS :

James Henry Hoadley, *High Priest*,
Jacob Van Deuser Hoag, *King*,
Elle Ellen, *Scribe*,
Samuel Parker, *Captain of the Host*,
Joseph Dearborn Hilton, *Prin. Sojourner*,
Joseph Marzen, *Royal Arch Captain*,

George Schaffer, *Master 3d Vail*,
Ulysses Socrates Dewey, *Master 2d Vail*,
Aaron Berg, *Master 1st Vail*,
Hiram Whitehead Roberts, *Treasurer*,
Charles Fayette McGlashan, *Secretary*,
Ephraim Hogan, *Guard*.

Past High Priests:

James Henry Hoadley,

Aaron Davis Park.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Adolphe, Julius
Austin, Thomas
Bacon, Benjamin Franklin
Bell, Robert
Bittancourt, Thomas Maria
Boyde, John
Brickell, Edward John
Butt, Levi Daniel
Campbell, William Baker
Clark, John P.
Courtois, Charles

Doan, Latimer Emery
Frates, Frank
Gaylord, Eben Hills
Gray, William Cushman
Hamilton, Edward
Hill, William Henry
Hoy, James Wellington
Jackson, Julius Dunham
Joesink, Bern. Hendrikus
Johnson, Hogan

Marshall, James Edgar
Perrin, Edward Russel
Preddy, John Thomas
Reanda, Julio
Royal, George
Schaffer, Edward
Schaffer, George Henry
Schiveley, Albert Redstone
Shields, Michael
Turner, Jacob Perry

—44.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS :

Holt, Andrew Jackson

Leach, David Walter—2.

WITHDRAWN :

Graham, Levi Allen

Rhoda, August John

McCarthy, Patrick—3.

RED BLUFF CHAPTER, No. 40.**Red Bluff, Tehama County.***Stated Meetings, first and third Saturdays after each Full Moon.***OFFICERS :**

Adoniram Judson Loomis, <i>High Priest</i> ,	George Champlin, <i>Master 3d Vail</i> ,
William Boyd Parker, <i>King</i> ,	John Stewart Hall, <i>Master 2d Vail</i> ,
Hosmer Curtis Copeland, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Silas Washington Kenney, <i>Master 1st Vail</i> ,
John Clements, <i>Captain of the Host</i> ,	Henry Clay Richart, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Robert Hurd Blossom, <i>Prin. Sojourner</i> ,	Rememb'ce Hughes Campbell, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Mayor Misch, <i>Royal Arch Captain</i> ,	Samuel S. Thomas, <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priest :

Adoniram Judson Loomis.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Bettis, Rawson Southerland	Jackson, Alexander Bell	Phillips, John Waterman
Cameron, James Strong	Lewis, Edward Jefferson	Puls, George
Collins, Henry	Merrill, Nathaniel	Schoenfield, Jeremiah
Cone, Joseph Spencer	Miller, Francis	Stokes, John Gardner
Elkins, Henry Marrett	Morris, George Franklin	Wadsworth, Silas Marsden
Galland, Joseph Barnet	Nagle, Peter Buck	Wilson, Henry Clay—30.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS:

Healey, Lucian Bonaparte

Vestal, Frank A—2.

MARK MASTER :

Reiser, Ellis—1.

DIED :

Ross, George—1.

TEMPLE CHAPTER, No. 41.**Watsonville, Santa Cruz County.***Stated Meetings, first Wednesday in each month.***OFFICERS :**

William Wallace Ross, <i>High Priest</i> ,	John Sidney Payne, <i>Master 3d Vail</i> ,
James Waters, <i>King</i> ,	Michael Gagnon, <i>Master 2d Vail</i> ,
James Ingham, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Moses Burril Howard, <i>Master 1st Vail</i> ,
William Van Doren, <i>Captain of the Host</i>	Jeremiah Sheldon Chapman, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
William George Hudson, <i>Prin. Sojourner</i> ,	Charles Lewis Thomas, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Alexander Chalmers, <i>Royal Arch Captain</i> ,	George Hamilton Brewington, <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priest:

James Martin Rodgers.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS.

Abbot, Carlisle Stewart	Landrum, William Merimon	Putnam, Azro Carlton
Brown, James Hiram	Look, Prince Helleman	Rounds, Henry A.
Brownstone, David	Lyster, Henry	Stroud, Tracy
Card, George Boardman	Mauk, Edwin Franklin	Thrift, Alexander
Craig, Andrew	Martin, Enos James	Wahler, Joseph Daniel
Flint, Thomas	Mitchell, Charles Edward	Warner, Henry Conrad
Frieremuth, Hervy Weston	Morris, Moses	Williamson, William
Howard, Volney		

CHICO CHAPTER, No. 42.

Chico, Butte County.

Stated Meetings, second and fourth Mondays in each month.

OFFICERS:

Charles Lewis Pond, <i>High Priest,</i>	Garrett Wells Wallraven, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Rufus Macagah Cochran, <i>King,</i>	William Duncan King, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Aug. Harley Chapman, <i>Scribe,</i>	Obediah Leininger, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Robert Emmet Warren, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	Charles Louis Stilson, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Chas. Alton Miller, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Edward Hoole, <i>Secretary,</i>
Watson King Springer, <i>Royal Arch Oapt.</i>	Ira Alston Wetherbee, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Charles Louis Pond,	Rufus Macagah Cochran.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Bennett, Isaac Rugg	Harmon, Guilford Lafayette	Parton, Huse Owen
Bidwell, John	Holbrook, Charles Henry	Robinson, John Rose
Bradley, William Leroy	Holmes, Henry Preston	Sawyer, Alexander
Clark, James Birney	Houghton, Jos. Richardson	Sproul, Samuel Murray
Colby, Gilbert Winslow	Hubbs, Benjamin Albert	Stevens, Warren Charles
Daniels, Samuel	Jones, George Foster	Tanquary, Oliver Hazard P.
Decker, James Madison	Ketchum, John Addison	Taylor, George Matteson
Durham, Wm. Wellington	Mason, Carnot Courtland	Tilden, William Perigrine
Fuller, Harrison William	Mitchell, James Ewing	Turner, John Alphonso
Garner, John Mortimer	Montgomery, J.W. Bradford	Turner, William Tomes
Gifford, Albert Judson	Montgomery, John Newton	Warren, Cyrus Greenleaf
Guynn, Pleasant Medrian	Montgomery, Thos. Mitchell	Wayland, Joseph Franklin
Hamblin, Geo. Lawrence	Murdock, William	Young, Alexander
Hansen, Lauritz	Nichols, Edward Cuyler	

—53.

PAST MASTER:

Batchelder, Hiram Treat—1.

SOLANO CHAPTER, No. 43.

Suisun, Solano County.

Stated Meetings, Wednesday of or next preceding Full Moon.

OFFICERS:

William Sewall Wells, <i>High Priest,</i>	Eben Dorman Perkins, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Columbus Palestine Reeves, <i>King,</i>	Julian Buel Hoyt, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
John Baptist Bope, <i>Scribe,</i>	Allen Charles Miller, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
John Tyrrell, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Duke Davis Reeves, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Albert Fred. Knorp, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Joseph Wolf Stamper, <i>Secretary,</i>
Jerome Bonaparte Richardson, <i>R. A. Capt.</i>	William Gustavus Davisson, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

William Sewall Wells,	John Baptist Bope.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Bauman, Jacob Henry	Hoyt, William Kimball	Owens, Woodford, Jr.
Capell, James Smith	Marston, Jeremiah Hobbs	Robbins, Reuel Drinkwater
Chapman, Adeline	McKinley, Geo. Churchill	Robinson, John
Coghlan, John Maxwell	Miller, Meredith Rains	Smith, Sampson
Davis, George Ransom	Moore, Arthur	Stewart, Samuel—29.
Hoyt, George Adolphus	Nurse, Stephen Kirby	

VISALIA CHAPTER, No. 44.**Visalia, Tulare County.***Stated Meetings, second and fourth Saturdays in each month.***OFFICERS :**

Charles Carroll Strong, <i>High Priest,</i>	William Harland, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Robert Chidley Broder, <i>King,</i>	Theodore Spencer, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Basil Gaither Parker, <i>Scribe,</i>	Pleasant Byrd, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Benj. Lafayette Conyers, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	Abram H. Murray, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Andrew Henderson Broder, <i>Pr. Sojourner,</i>	Samuel G. Creighton, <i>Secretary,</i>
Jeremiah Parker, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	———, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priest :

Charles Carroll Strong.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Baker, Martin	Glasscock, Alpha Hayden	Jourdan, Francis
Carothers, Samuel	Grussenmyer, Joseph F. M.	Kelly, Thomas Almaren
Chatten, Richard	Hockett, John Benjamin	Stoneman, Finis Ewing
Davissan, Israel	Henry, Albert Reece	Wells, Morgan James
Eaton, Mathew	Johnson, Thomas Price	—25.

SANTA ROSA CHAPTER, No. 45.**Santa Rosa, Sonoma County.***Stated Meetings, first and third Wednesdays in each month.***OFFICERS :**

Adolphus Leigh Fitzgerald, <i>High Priest,</i>	John Thompson Knox, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
William Hammet Bond, <i>King,</i>	Peter Hailman, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Elijah Thompson Farmer, <i>Scribe,</i>	Robertson Head, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Edward Neblett, <i>Captain of the Host.</i>	Theodore Falkerson, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Robert Kirtley Hays, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	———, <i>Secretary,</i>
John Hendley, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Julio Carrillo, <i>Guard.</i>

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Beam, Jeremiah	Griggs, Joseph Henry	Overton, Albert Berry
Gordon, James Burns	Label, H.	—16.

WOODLAND CHAPTER, No. 46.

Woodland, Yolo County.

Stated Meetings, first and third Wednesdays in each month.

OFFICERS :

Thomas Cross Pockman, <i>High Priest,</i>	James Alex. Hutton, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
John Dwight Crittenden, <i>King,</i>	Franklin Sylvester Freeman, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
John Dickson Stephens, <i>Scribe,</i>	Andrew Carlisle Kean, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Godfrey Rodolph, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Charles Henry Davis, <i>Treasurer,</i>
George Jermain Cole, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	David Schindler, <i>Secretary,</i>
James Johnson, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	James Veirs, <i>Guard.</i>

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Aronson, Henry	Goodin, Thomas C.
Goode, Daniel Boone	Snowball, John W.—16.

LIST OF CHAPTERS NOW IN EXISTENCE,

WITH A SUMMARY OF THEIR RETURNS FOR THE TERM, TWELVE MONTHS, ENDING JANUARY 31, A. I. 2403.

List of Chapters

No. Chapter.	NAMES OF CHAPTERS.	PLACE OF LOCATION.		DATE WHEN CHARTER WAS ORDERED.	Marked.	Passed.	Received.	Exalted.	Affiliated.	Restored.	Withdrawn.	Susp. for non- payt of dues.	Sus. Un. Con.	Excluded.	Expelled.	Died.	Rejected.	M. Masters.	Past Masters.	M.E. Masters.	R. A. Masons.
		TOWN.	COUNTY.																		
1	SAN FRANCISCO,.....	San Francisco,.....	San Francisco,.....	July 28, 1854.	18	18	18	18	18	2	13	5				1					107
2	SONORA,.....	Sonora,.....	Tuolumne,.....	" "							2					1					60
3	SACRAMENTO,.....	Sacramento,.....	Sacramento,.....	" "	9	9	10	11	1		9	11		1					2		137
4	EL DORADO,.....	El Dorado,.....	El Dorado,.....	April 30, 1855.																	
5	CALIFORNIA,.....	San Francisco,.....	San Francisco,.....	" "	14	14	14	12	9	4	8	3				4	2			5	221
6	NEVADA,.....	Nevada,.....	Nevada,.....	" "	3	3	2	3	3		1	1				1			1		53
7	BENICIA,.....	Benicia,.....	Solano,.....	" "							2										28
8	COLUMBIA,.....	Columbia,.....	Tuolumne,.....	" "																	
9	SHASTA,.....	Shasta,.....	Shasta,.....	" "							1	1				1					47
10	FOREST,.....	Forest City,.....	Sierra,.....	" "																	
11	SUTTER,.....	Sutter Creek,.....	Amador,.....	May 3, 1856.	6	6	6	7	1		3										58
12	CALAVERAS,.....	Snelling,.....	Merced,.....	" "	1	2	2	2											2		32
13	WASHINGTON,.....	Marysville,.....	Yuba,.....	" "	10	11	13	15	2		1	5				1				3	99
14	HOWARD,.....	San Jose,.....	Santa Clara,.....	" "	7	7	7	7	4		1	1				2				1	75
15	CYRUS,.....	Yreka,.....	Siskiyou,.....	" "							15	1						1			36
16	ST. JAMES,.....	Placerville,.....	El Dorado,.....	May 8, 1857.	1	1	2				2	1				2			2	2	34
17	LIBANUS,.....	Iowa Hill,.....	Placer,.....	" "	1	1													1		27
18	GRASS VALLEY,.....	Grass Valley,.....	Nevada,.....	May 7, 1858.	8	8	9	9			4	1			1	1	2		2	1	68
19	TRINITY,.....	Weaverville,.....	Trinity,.....	" "																	18
20	FRANKLIN,.....	Oroville,.....	Butte,.....	" "	4	4	4	3			2	3				1		2	2	3	35
21	SIERRA,.....	Downieville,.....	Sierra,.....	" "	2	2	1	1	1		3	3				3	2		2		38
22	PETALUMA,.....	Petaluma,.....	Sonoma,.....	" "	8	9	9	9			6			1							60
23	OLIVER,.....	Forest Hill,.....	Placer,.....	May 6, 1859.																	36
24	LA FAYETTE,.....	Camptonville,.....	Yuba,.....	" "	3	3	1					1							2	1	17
25	GEORGETOWN,.....	Georgetown,.....	El Dorado,.....	May 4, 1860.	2	2	2	2						2		1					38
26	OAKLAND,.....	Oakland,.....	Alameda,.....	" 5,	7	8	7	3			3	3							1	4	61
27	DELTA,.....	Auburn,.....	Placer,.....	May 10, 1861.	2	2	2	2		1	1									1	22
28	STOCKTON,.....	Stockton,.....	San Joaquin,.....	" "	6	6	4	3			1	3		1					2	1	79

26	MANZANITA,	29	North San Juan,	Nevada,	May	10, 1861.	7	7	6	6	6	2	1	1	1	53						
27	NAPA,	30	Napa City,	Napa,	May	9, 1862.	1	2	3	4	2	1	2	1	2	36						
28	MARTINEZ,	31	Martinez,	Contra Costa, .....	"	"	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	1	32	
29	QUINCY,	32	Quincy,	Plumas,	May	8, 1863.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
30	LOS ANGELES,	33	Los Angeles,	Los Angeles,	Oct.	7, 1864.	4	4	3	3	4	1	1	2	...	63						
31	ALTURAS,	34	La Porte,	Plumas,	"	"	4	3	3	3	...	2	1	1	...	31						
32	NAVAL,	35	Vallejo,	Solano,	"	20, 1868.	3	3	3	3	1	5	...	...	...	61			
33	ALAMEDA,	36	Oakland,	Alameda,	"	"	14	13	15	12	7	2	...	1	3	71						
34	SILOAM,	37	Colfax,	Placer,	April	6, 1870.	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	30	
35	SANTA CRUZ,	38	Santa Cruz,	Santa Cruz,	"	"	1	3	2	2	...	4	2	1	1	30						
36	DONNER,	39	Truckee,	Nevada,	"	11, 1871.	11	12	12	10	...	3	...	...	...	44			
37	RED BLUFF,	40	Red Bluff,	Tehama,	"	"	5	4	4	2	...	...	1	2	2	30				
38	TEMPLE,	41	Watsonville,	Santa Cruz,	"	"	6	6	9	9	1	...	...	...	...	35		
39	CHICO,	42	Chico,	Butte,	"	"	12	12	12	15	5	...	...	1	...	53				
40	SOLANO,	43	Suisun,	Solano,	"	1872.	4	4	5	5	3	...	1	...	...	29				
41	VISALIA,	44	Visalia,	Tulare,	"	9, 1873.	3	3	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	25	
42	SANTA ROSA,	45	Santa Rosa,	Sonoma, .....	"	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
43	WOODLAND,	46	Woodland,	Yolo,	"	"	6	6	6	6	...	...	...	...	...	16	
							195	200	202	192	44	9	96	50	10	1	22	12	13	27	33	2161

* Charter surrendered. † No return. ‡ Consolidated with Sonoma Chapter, No. 2.

GRAND OFFICERS

Elected since the Organization of the Grand Chapter, July 28, A. I. 2384.

1854.

CHARLES M. RADOLIFF, *Grand High Priest.* A. B. HOY,.....*Grand King.*
JOHN D. CREIGH, *Dep. Grand High Priest.* HUGH G. PLATT,*Grand Scribe.*

1855.

JOHN D. CREIGH, . . . *Grand High Priest.* WILLIAM W. TRAYLOR,*Grand King.*
ISAAO DAVIS,*Dep. Grand High Priest.* LEVERETT BRADLEY,*Grand Scribe.*

1856.

ORANGE H. DIBBLE, . . . *Grand High Priest.* WHITING G. WEST,*Grand King.*
WM. W. TRAYLOR, *Dep. Grand High Priest.* *JAMES A. JACKSON,*Grand Scribe.*

1857.

WILLIAM W. TRAYLOR, *Grand High Priest.* WHITING G. WEST,*Grand King.*
THOS. H. CASWELL, *Dep. Grand High Priest.* *JAMES A. JACKSON,*Grand Scribe.*

1858.

THOMAS H. CASWELL, *Grand High Priest.* *JAMES A. JACKSON,*Grand King.*
WHITING G. WEST, *Dep. Grand High Priest.* *HENRY HARE HARTLEY, ... *Grand Scribe.*

1859.

WHITING G. WEST,*Grand High Priest.* AARON D. PARK,*Grand King.*
*H. H. HARTLEY, ..*Dep. Grand High Priest.* *LEWIS REYNOLDS,*Grand Scribe.*

1860.

*HENRY H. HARTLEY, .. *Grand High Priest.* JAMES W. BICKNELL,*Grand King.*
ADOLPHUS HOLLUB, *Dep. Grand High Priest.* EZRA HOWARD VAN DECAR, *Grand Scribe.*

1861.

*HENRY H. HARTLEY, .. *Grand High Priest.* EZRA HOWARD VAN DECAR, *Grand King.*
ADOLPHUS HOLLUB, *Dep. Grand High Priest.* JOHN KIRKPATRICK,*Grand Scribe.*

1862.

ADOLPHUS HOLLUB, .. *Grand High Priest.* JOHN KIRKPATRICK,*Grand King.*
EZRA H. VANDECAR, .. *Dep. Gr. High Priest.* CHARLES MARSH,*Grand Scribe.*

1863.

EZRA H. VAN DECAR, .. *Grand High Priest.* CHARLES MARSH,*Grand King.*
JOHN KIRKPATRICK, .. *Dep. Gr. High Priest.* WILLIAM A. DAVIES,*Grand Scribe.*

1864.

*ISAAC DAVIS,*Grand High Priest.* CHARLES MARSH,*Grand King.*
JOHN KIRKPATRICK, *Dep. Gr. High Priest.* WILLIAM A. DAVIES,*Grand Scribe.*

1865.

JOHN KIRKPATRICK, .. *Grand High Priest.* WILLIAM A. DAVIES,*Grand King.*
CHARLES MARSH, *Dep. Grand High Priest.* ISAAC S. TITUS,*Grand Scribe.*

* Deceased.

1866.

CHARLES MARSH,.... *Grand High Priest.* ISAAC S. TITUS,..... *Grand King.*
WM. A. DAVIES, *Dep. Grand High Priest.* JOHN W. HARVILLE,..... *Grand Scribe.*

1867.

ISAAC S. TITUS,..... *Grand High Priest.* JOHN W. HARVILLE,..... *Grand King.*
*JAS. A. JACKSON, *Dep. Gr. High Priest.* GEORGE T. GRIMES,..... *Grand Scribe.*

1868.

JOHN W. HARVILLE, *Grand High Priest.* JAS. LAWRENCE ENGLISH, *Grand King.*
GEORGE T. GRIMES, *Dep. Gr. High Priest.* JACOB H. NEFF,..... *Grand Scribe.*

1870.

GEORGE T. GRIMES, *Grand High Priest.* JACOB H. NEFF,..... *Grand King.*
JAS. LAW. ENGLISH, *Dep. Gr. H. Priest.* STEPHEN WING,..... *Grand Scribe.*

1871.

JAS. L. ENGLISH,.... *Grand High Priest.* STEPHEN WING,..... *Grand King.*
JACOB H. NEFF,..... *Dep. Gr. H. Priest.* JOSEPH ISAACS,..... *Grand Scribe.*

1872.

JACOB H. NEFF, *Grand High Priest.* WM. THOMAS REYNOLDS,.... *Grand King.*
JOSEPH ISAACS,..... *Dep. Gr. H. Priest.* WM. ALEX. JANUARY,.... *Grand Scribe.*

1873.

WM. A. DAVIES,.... *Grand High Priest.* WM. THOMAS REYNOLDS, *Grand King.*
JOSEPH ISAACS,..... *Dep. Gr. H. Priest.* WM. ALEXANDER JANUARY, *Grand Scribe.*

*Deceased.

G R A N D C H A P T E R S

IN COMMUNICATION WITH THE

G R A N D C H A P T E R O F C A L I F O R N I A .

Grand Chapters.	Grand Secretaries.	Residence.
ALABAMA,	DANIEL SAYRE,	Montgomery.
ARKANSAS,	LUKE E. BARBER,	Little Rock.
CANADA,	THOMAS BIRD HARRIS,	Hamilton.
CONNECTICUT,	JOSEPH K. WHEELER,	Hartford.
DELAWARE,	J. P. ALLMOND,	Wilmington.
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,	C. W. HANCOCK,	Washington.
ENGLAND AND WALES,	JOHN HERVEY,	London.
FLORIDA,	W. M. MCINTOSH,	Pensacola.
GEORGIA,	J. EMMETT BLACKSHEAR,	Savannah
ILLINOIS,	JAMES H. MILES,	Chicago.
INDIANA,	JOHN M. BRAMWELL,	Indianapolis.
IOWA,	WILLIAM B. LANGRIDGE,	Muscatine.
KANSAS,	ERASMUS T. CARR,	Leavenworth
KENTUCKY,	JOHN M. S. MCCORKLE,	Louisville.
LOUISIANA,	JAMES C. BATCHELOR,	New Orleans.
MAINE,	IRA BERRY,	Portland.
MARYLAND,	WILLIAM A. WENTZ,	Baltimore.
MASSACHUSETTS,	Z. H. THOMAS,	Cambridgeport.
MICHIGAN,	J. EASTMAN JOHNSON,	Centreville.
MINNESOTA,	WILLIAM S. COMBS,	St. Paul.
MISSISSIPPI,	J. L. POWER,	Jackson.
MISSOURI,	GEO. FRANK GOULEY, ...	St. Louis.
NEBRASKA,	ROBERT W. FURNASS, ...	Omaha.
NEW HAMPSHIRE,	ABEL HUTCHINS,	Concord.
NEW JERSEY,	JOHN WOLVERTON,	Trenton.
NEW YORK,	CHRISTOPHER G. FOX,	Buffalo.
NORTH CAROLINA,	THOMAS B. CARE,	Wilmington.
NOVA SCOTIA,	JAMES GOSSIP,	Halifax.
OHIO,	JAMES NESBIT,	Cincinnati.
OREGON,	R. P. EARHEART,	Salem.
PENNSYLVANIA,	JOHN THOMSON,	Philadelphia.
RHODE ISLAND,	GEORGE H. BURNHAM,	Providence.
SOUTH CAROLINA,	AUGUSTINE T. SMYTHE,	Charleston.
TENNESSEE,	JOHN FRIZELL,	Nashville.
TEXAS,	ROBERT BREWSTER,	Houston.
VERMONT,	W. H. S. WHITCOMB,	Burlington.
VIRGINIA,	JOHN DOVE,	Richmond.
WEST VIRGINIA,	ODELL S. LONG,	Wheeling.
WISCONSIN, ...	WILLIAM T. PALMER,	Milwaukee.

GRAND CONVENTION
OF THE
ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTS
OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL CONVOCAATION.

The fourteenth Annual Grand Convention of the Order of High Priests of the State of California, assembled at the Masonic Temple, in the city of San Francisco, on Wednesday, the ninth day of April, 1873, at eight o'clock, P. M.

There were present the following

OFFICERS :

The *M. . E. .* WILLIAM WILSON TRAYLOR,.....*President ;*
" *R. . E. .* ALVIN BACON PRESTON,.....*Chaplain ;*
" *R. . E. .* CHARLES MARSH,.....*Treasurer ;*
" *R. . E. .* THEODORE EDWARD SMITH,.....*Recorder ;*
" *R. . E. .* JOSEPH BONAPARTE SCOTCHLER,.....*Conductor ;*
" *R. . E. .* JOHN ERNEST KUNKLER.....*Steward :*

Also COMPANIONS DAVID PORTER BYSTLE, THOMAS CALLOW, JAMES DODS, GEORGE HEIEN GILBERT, JAMES LAIDLEY, WILLIAM THOMPSON LUTHER, RICHARD MUNT, JACOB HART NEFF, HENRY PECK, JAMES MARTIN RODGERS, JOHN A. SEELY, CHARLES E. STONE, JOHN FRANCOIS SNOW, WILEY JAMES TINNIN, WILLIAM SEWALL WELLS, JEREMIAH ELKINS WHITCHER, STEPHEN WING, WILLIAM ABRAHAM DAVIES, JOSEPH ISAACS, ROBERT CROUCH, SAMUEL GRAVES, ALEXANDER GURDON ABELL, CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN.

The *M. . E. .* President made the following appointments, *pro tempore* :—

Comp. JACOB HART NEFF,.....*Vice President ;*
" WILLIAM A. DAVIES,.....*Master of Ceremonies ;*
" SAMUEL POWELL LAWSON,.....*Herald :*

And the Convention was opened in *Due form.*

The reading of the minutes of the proceedings had at the last Annual Convention was dispensed with, the members being furnished with printed copies thereof.

Petitions were received from the following named companions :—

EDWIN ALDRICH RODGERS,.....	High Priest, <i>Sonora</i>	Chapter, No. 2 ;
WILLIAM MUNROE PETRIE,.....	" " <i>Sacramento</i>	" " 3 ;
HIRAM THROOP GRAVES,.....	" " <i>California</i>	" " 5 ;
NORMAN DUNNING RIDEOUT,.....	P. H. Priest, <i>Washington</i>	" " 13 ;
EDMUND TAYLOR WILKINS,.....	" " "	" " 13 ;
GEORGE MAY,.....	" " <i>Howard</i>	" " 14 ;
REUBEN LEECH,.....	" " <i>Grass Valley</i>	" " 18 ;
OSCAR VALENTINE WALKER,.....	High Priest, <i>Petaluma</i>	" " 22 ;
GEORGE WASHINGTON HUNTER,.....	" " <i>Georgetown</i>	" " 25 ;
THATCHER PETER WALES,.....	" " <i>Oakland</i>	" " 26 ;
JOHN STORER MCBRIDE,.....	P. H. Priest, <i>Manzanita</i>	" " 29 ;
HENRY SAYRE ORME,.....	High Priest, <i>Los Angeles</i>	" " 33 ;
ELIAS ANDERSON,.....	" " <i>Alturas</i>	" " 34 ;
ALEX. HOPKINS HICHBORN,.....	" " <i>Naval</i>	" " 35 ;
MELVIN TYRUS GARDNER,.....	" " <i>Siloam</i>	" " 37 ;
ADONIRAM JUDSON LOOMIS,.....	P. H. Priest, <i>Red Bluff</i>	" " 40 ;
CHARLES LEWIS POND,.....	High Priest, <i>Chico</i>	" " 42 ;

Who were severally elected to receive the Order of High Priest.

Companions EDWIN ALDRICH RODGERS, WILLIAM MUNROE PETRIE, HIRAM THROOP GRAVES, GEORGE MAY, REUBEN LEECH, THATCHER PETER WALES, JOHN STORER MCBRIDE, HENRY SAYRE ORME, ALEX. HOPKINS HICHBORN, ELIAS ANDERSON, MELVIN TYRUS GARDNER, ADONIRAM JUDSON LOOMIS, GEORGE WASHINGTON HUNTER, and CHARLES LEWIS POND were severally introduced and received the Order of High Priest.

The following named companions were then elected officers for the ensuing year :—

The M. E. SAMUEL GRAVES,.....	<i>President ;</i>
" R. E. WILLIAM WILSON TRAYLOR,.....	<i>Vice President ;</i>
" R. E. ALVIN BACON PRESTON,.....	<i>Chaplain ;</i>
" R. E. CHARLES MARSH,.....	<i>Treasurer ;</i>
" R. E. THEODORE EDWARD SMITH,.....	<i>Recorder ;</i>
" R. E. WILLIAM ABRAHAM DAVIES,.....	<i>Master of Ceremonies ;</i>
" R. E. JOSEPH BONAPARTE SCOTCHLER,.....	<i>Conductor ;</i>
" R. E. CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,.....	<i>Herald ;</i>
" R. E. ALEX. GURDON ABELL,.....	<i>Steward.</i>

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the M. E. President be authorized to call a special Convention of High Priests at such time during the year as may be convenient, for the purpose of conferring the Order of High Priest upon Companions OSCAR VALENTINE WALKER, EDMUND TAYLOR WILKINS, and NORMAN DUNNING RIDEOUT, who could not be present at this meeting.

There being no further business, the Convention was closed in Due Form.

ATTEST :

THEODORE EDWARD SMITH, *Recorder.*

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

OF THE

GRAND CONVENTION OF HIGH PRIESTS.

OFFICERS :

<p>Samuel Graves, <i>President</i>, William Wilson Traylor, <i>Vice President</i>, Alvin Bacon Preston, <i>Chaplain</i>, Charles Marsh, <i>Treasurer</i>,</p>	<p>Theodore Edward Smith, <i>Recorder</i>, Wm. Abraham Davies, <i>Mast. of Ceremonies</i>, Joseph Bonaparte Scotchler, <i>Conductor</i>, Charles Louis Wiggin, <i>Herald</i>, Alexander Gurdon Abell, <i>Steward</i>.</p>
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MEMBERS :

<p>Akerly, Benjamin Anderson, Elias Bacon, Eli Griffith Barss, Frederick Ferdinand Bicknell, Jas. Witherspoon Blair, Charles Macmurdo Bond, Joshua Lester Brady, Alex. Buchanan Brown, Josiah Perkins Brown, Thomas Allen Burke, John Martin Bystle, David Porter Besse, John Nelson Blake, George Mansfield Callow, Thomas Caswell, Thomas Hubbard Claiborne, Gilbert Burnett Cohn, Louis Crandall, John Riggs Creigh, John Dunbar Crouch, Robert Dobrowsky, Adolph Dods, James Doncaster, Richard, Jr. Doncaster, Samuel Davis, Edwin Ransom English, James Lawrence Ellis, Ralph Foster, Francis Gilbert, George Heirn Glover, James Russell Goss, Leonard Graham, Thomas Jefferson Grimes, George Tuttle Graves, Hiram Throop Gardner, Melvin Tyrus Harville, John William Hayes, Thayer Russell Harden, John B. Hayward, Alvinza Hedges, Edward Richard</p>	<p>Hewson, John Bankson Hichborn, Alex. Hopkins Hilton, Osgood Hoadley, James Henry Hollub, Adolphus Hunter, Geo. Washington Jaacs, Joseph January, William Alex. Joy, Alex. Cartwright Jump, Alembly Kingsley, James Forman Kirkpatrick, John Knapp, Henry Hay Knox, William Franklin Kyle, Thomas Kunkler, John Ernest Laidley, James Lanphier, Gilbert Lawrence, William Lee Lawson, Samuel Powell Leech, Reuben Loomis, Adoniram Judson Lott, Charles Fayette Lyon, William Henry Luther, William Thompson Mason, John Clifton May, George McCormick, William McFarland, Abel McMurry, Valentine McBride, John Storer Menzies, Stewart Millington, John Myres, Benjamin Franklin Myrick, Milton Hills Munt, Richard Neff, Jacob Hart Neville, John M. Newton William Davis O'Rear, Benj. Threlkeld Orme, Henry Sayre</p>	<p>Parkhurst, Russell Park, Aaron Davis Peck, Henry Perkins, Geo. Washington Petrie, William Munroe Pond, Charles Lewis Prassa, Francis Anthony Raynes, Alonzo Emery Ream, Daniel Reynolds, William Thomas Rich, William Clinton Rolfe, Tallman Hathaway Ross, James Roush, William Rodgers, James Martin Rodgers, Edwin Aldrich Russell, Henry Warren Ryan, William Henry Sage, Timothy Seely, John Ambrose Siesbuttel, Alexander Singley, James Stone, Charles E. Stone, Nathan Hosmer Snow, John Francis Spaulding, Nathan Weston Spear, Willard Smith Stanley, John Quincy Adams Tinnin, James Wiley Titus, Isaac Sutvene Turner, Jared Tuttle, Benjamin Franklin Walker, George Russell Warner, Henry Wales, Thatcher Peter Wells, William Sewell Weymouth, James Lambert Williams, Alphens Fuller Witcher, Jeremiah Elken Wing, Stephen Winterburn, George Howard</p>
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EDWIN ALDRICH RODGERS,.....	High Priest, <i>Sonora</i>	Chapter, No. 2 ;
WILLIAM MUNROE PETRIE,.....	" " <i>Sacramento</i>	" " 3 ;
HIRAM THROOP GRAVES,.....	" " <i>California</i>	" " 5 ;
NORMAN DUNNING RIDEOUT,.....	P. H. Priest, <i>Washington</i>	" " 13 ;
EDMUND TAYLOR WILKINS,.....	" " "	" " 13 ;
GEORGE MAY,.....	" " <i>Howard</i>	" " 14 ;
REUBEN LEECH,.....	" " <i>Grass Valley</i>	" " 18 ;
OSCAR VALENTINE WALKER,.....	High Priest, <i>Petaluma</i>	" " 22 ;
GEORGE WASHINGTON HUNTER,.....	" " <i>Georgetown</i>	" " 25 ;
THATCHER PETER WALES,.....	" " <i>Oakland</i>	" " 26 ;
JOHN STORER MCBRIDE,.....	P. H. Priest, <i>Manzanita</i>	" " 29 ;
HENRY SAYRE ORME,.....	High Priest, <i>Los Angeles</i>	" " 33 ;
ELIAS ANDERSON,.....	" " <i>Alturas</i>	" " 34 ;
ALEX. HOPKINS HICHBORN,.....	" " <i>Naval</i>	" " 35 ;
MELVIN TYRUS GARDNER,.....	" " <i>Siloam</i>	" " 37 ;
ADONIRAM JUDSON LOOMIS,.....	P. H. Priest, <i>Red Bluff</i>	" " 40 ;
CHARLES LEWIS POND,.....	High Priest, <i>Chico</i>	" " 42 ;

Who were severally elected to receive the Order of High Priest.

Companions EDWIN ALDRICH RODGERS, WILLIAM MUNROE PETRIE, HIRAM THROOP GRAVES, GEORGE MAY, REUBEN LEECH, THATCHER PETER WALES, JOHN STORER MCBRIDE, HENRY SAYRE ORME, ALEX. HOPKINS HICHBORN, ELIAS ANDERSON, MELVIN TYRUS GARDNER, ADONIRAM JUDSON LOOMIS, GEORGE WASHINGTON HUNTER, and CHARLES LEWIS POND were severally introduced and received the Order of High Priest.

The following named companions were then elected officers for the ensuing year :—

The M. E. SAMUEL GRAVES,.....	<i>President ;</i>
" R. E. WILLIAM WILSON TRAYLOR,.....	<i>Vice President ;</i>
" R. E. ALVIN BACON PRESTON,.....	<i>Chaplain ;</i>
" R. E. CHARLES MARSH, ..	<i>Treasurer ;</i>
" R. E. THEODORE EDWARD SMITH,.....	<i>Recorder ;</i>
" R. E. WILLIAM ABRAHAM DAVIES,.....	<i>Master of Ceremonies ;</i>
" R. E. JOSEPH BONAPARTE SCOTCHLER,.....	<i>Conductor ;</i>
" R. E. CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,.....	<i>Herald ;</i>
" R. E. ALEX. GURDON ABELL,.....	<i>Steward.</i>

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the M. E. President be authorized to call a special Convention of High Priests at such time during the year as may be convenient, for the purpose of conferring the Order of High Priest upon Companions OSCAR VALENTINE WALKER, EDMUND TAYLOR WILKINS, and NORMAN DUNNING RIDEOUT, who could not be present at this meeting.

There being no further business, the Convention was closed in *Due Form*.

ATTEST :

THEODORE EDWARD SMITH, *Recorder*.

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

OF THE

GRAND CONVENTION OF HIGH PRIESTS.

OFFICERS :

Samuel Graves, <i>President</i> ,	Theodore Edward Smith, <i>Recorder</i> ,
William Wilson Traylor, <i>Vice President</i> ,	Wm. Abraham Davies, <i>Mast. of Ceremonies</i> ,
Alvin Bacon Preston, <i>Chaplain</i> ,	Joseph Bonaparte Scotchler, <i>Conductor</i> ,
Charles Marsh, <i>Treasurer</i> ,	Charles Louis Wiggin, <i>Herald</i> ,
Alexander Gurdon Abell, <i>Steward</i> .	

MEMBERS :

Akerly, Benjamin	Hewson, John Bankson	Parkhurst, Russell
Anderson, Elias	Hichborn, Alex. Hopkins	Park, Aaron Davis
Bacon, Eli Griffith	Hilton, Osgood	Peck, Henry
Barss, Frederick Ferdinand	Hoadley, James Henry	Perkins, Geo. Washington
Bicknell, Jas. Witherspoon	Hollub, Adolphus	Petrie, William Munroe
Blair, Charles Macmurdo	Hunter, Geo. Washington	Pond, Charles Lewis
Bond, Joshua Lester	I aacs, Joseph	Prassa, Francis Anthony
Brady, Alex. Buchanan	January, William Alex.	Raynes, Alonzo Emery
Brown, Josiah Perkins	Joy, Alex. Cartwright	Ream, Daniel
Brown, Thomas Allen	Jump, Alembly	Reynolds, William Thomas
Burke, John Martin	Kingsley, James Forman	Rich, William Clinton
Bystle, David Porter	Kirkpatrick, John	Rolfe, Tallman Hathaway
Besse, John Nelson	Knapp, Henry Hay	Ross, James
Blake, George Mansfield	Knox, William Franklin	Roush, William
Callow, Thomas	Kyle, Thomas	Rodgers, James Martin
Caswell, Thomas Hubbard	Kunkler, John Ernest	Rodgers, Edwin Aldrich
Claiborne, Gilbert Burnett	Laidley, James	Russell, Henry Warren
Cohn, Louis	Lanphier, Gilbert	Ryan, William Henry
Crandall, John Riggs	Lawrence, William Lee	Sage, Timothy
Creigh, John Dunbar	Lawson, Samuel Powell	Seely, John Ambrose
Crouch, Robert	Leech, Reuben	Siesbuttel, Alexander
Dobrowsky, Adolph	Loomis, Adoniram Judson	Singley, James
Dods, James	Lott, Charles Fayette	Stone, Charles E.
Doncaster, Richard, Jr.	Lyon, William Henry	Stone, Nathan Hosmer
Doncaster, Samuel	Luther, William Thompson	Snow, John Francis
Davis, Edwin Ransom	Mason, John Clifton	Spaulding, Nathan Weston
English, James Lawrence	May, George	Spear, Willard Smith
Ellis, Ralph	McCormick, William	Stanley, John Quincy Adams
Foster, Francis	McFarland, Abel	Tinnin, James Wiley
Gilbert, George Heirn	McMurry, Valentine	Titus, Isaac Sutvene
Glover, James Russell	McBride, John Storer	Turner, Jared
Goss, Leonard	Menzies, Stewart	Tuttle, Benjamin Franklin
Graham, Thomas Jefferson	Millington, John	Walker, George Russell
Grimes, George Tuttle	Myres, Benjamin Franklin	Warner, Henry
Graves, Hiram Throop	Myrick, Milton Hills	Wales, Thatcher Peter
Gardner, Melvin Tyrus	Munt, Richard	Wells, William Sewell
Harville, John William	Neff, Jacob Hart	Weymouth, James Lambert
Hayes, Thayer Russell	Neville, John M.	Williams, Alpheus Fuller
Harden, John B.	Newton William Davis	Whitcher, Jeremiah Elken
Hayward, Alvinza	O'Rear, Benj. Threlkeld	Wing, Stephen
Hedges, Edward Richard	Orme, Henry Sayre	Winterburn, George Howard

Grand Chapter of California.

I, CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of California, do hereby certify that the following pages contain a true and faithful transcript of the proceedings of that Body, at its Twentieth Annual Convocation, commenced at the city of San Francisco on Tuesday, the fourteenth day of April, A. D. 1874, A. I. 2404, and of the returns of the subordinate Chapters and other matters authorized to be published.



In Testimony Whereof,

I have hereunto appended my official signature, and have affixed the Seal of the Grand Chapter of California, this twenty-first day of April, A. D. 1874, A. I. 2404.

Chas. Louis Wiggin
Grand Secy

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND CHAPTER
OF
ROYAL ARCH MASONS
OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA,
AT ITS
TWENTIETH ANNUAL CONVOCATION,
HELD AT THE
MASONIC TEMPLE, IN THE CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO,
COMMENCED ON
TUESDAY, APRIL 14, A. D. 1874, A. I. 2404,
AND TERMINATED ON
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, A. D. 1874, A. I. 2404.

SAN FRANCISCO:
FRANK EASTMAN, PRINTER, 509 CLAY STREET.
1874.

GRAND OFFICERS
OF THE
Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons
OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

*For the year commencing April, A. I. 2404, and ending April,
A. I. 2405.*

M.: E.: WM. ALEX. JANUARY,.....GRAND HIGH PRIEST,.....*San Jose* ;
R.: E.: WM. THOMAS REYNOLDS, DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIEST, *San Francisco* ;
R.: E.: JOHN MILLS BROWNE,.....GRAND KING,.....*Vallejo* ;
R.: E.: HENRY HAY KNAPP.....GRAND SCRIBE,.....*Napa* ;
R.: E.: JOS. BON. SCOTCHLER,....GRAND TREASURER,.....*San Francisco* ;
R.: E.: CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,..GRAND SECRETARY,.....*San Francisco* ;
R.: E.: & Rev. JOHN E. BENTON,..GRAND CHAPLAIN,.....*Oakland* ;
E.: NATHAN W. SPAULDING,..GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE HOST, *Oakland* ;
E.: WILEY JAMES TINNIN,....GRAND ROYAL ARCH CAPTAIN, *Weaverville* ;
Comp. SAMUEL DAVID MAYER,..GRAND ORGANIST,..... *San Francisco* ;
" IRA COLBURN ROOT,.....GRAND GUARD,.....*San Francisco*.

GRAND LECTURER :

M.: E.: THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL,.....*Nevada*.

GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

TWENTIETH ANNUAL CONVOCATION.

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of California commenced its Twentieth Annual Convocation at the Masonic Temple, in the city of San Francisco, on Tuesday, the fourteenth day of April, A. D. 1874, A. I. 2404, at ten o'clock, A. M.

Upon calling the roll of members there were found present the following—

GRAND OFFICERS :

The M.: E.: WILLIAM ABRAHAM DAVIES,.....*Grand High Priest ;*
 “ R.: E.: WILLIAM THOMAS REYNOLDS,.....*Grand King ;*
 “ R.: E.: WILLIAM ALEXANDER JANUARY,.....*Grand Scribe ;*
 “ R.: E.: JOSEPH BONAPARTE SCOTCHLEE,.. ..*Grand Treasurer ;*
 “ R.: E.: CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,.....*Grand Secretary ;*
 “ R.: E.: JOHN ELLIOTT BENTON,..... ..*Grand Chaplain ;*
 “ M.: E.: THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL,.....*Grand Lecturer ;*
 “ R.: E.: HENRY HAY KNAPP,.....*Grand Capt. of the Host ;*
 “ R.: E.: NATHAN WESTON SPAULDING,.....*Grand Royal Arch Capt. ;*
 Comp. SAMUEL DAVID MAYER,.....Grand Organist ;
 “ IRA COLBURN ROOT,.....*Grand Guard.*

PAST GRAND OFFICERS :

The M.: E.: JOHN DUNBAR OREIGH,.....*Past Grand High Priest ;*
 “ M.: E.: WILLIAM WILSON TRAYLOR, “ “ “ “
 “ M.: E.: THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL,..... “ “ “ “
 “ M.: E.: JOHN KIRKPATRICK,..... “ “ “ “
 “ M.: E.: CHARLES MARSH,..... “ “ “ “
 “ M.: E.: JOHN WILLIAM HARVILLE,..... “ “ “ “
 “ M.: E.: GEORGE TUTTLE GRIMES,..... “ “ “ “
 “ M.: E.: JAMES LAWRENCE ENGLISH,..... “ “ “ “
 “ M.: E.: JACOB HART NEFF,..... “ “ “ “
 “ R.: E.: STEPHEN WING,.....*Past Grand King :*

And the representatives of forty chartered Chapters, together with a number of Past High Priests, by service under this jurisdiction, entitled to seats.

And there being a sufficient representation present, the Grand Chapter of California was opened in Ample Form, with music by the choir and prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The reading of the minutes at the last Annual Convocation was dispensed with, the members being furnished with printed copies thereof.

The Grand High Priest announced the following committee—

On Credentials :..... { Comp. George Heirn Gilbert,
" William Monroe Petrie,
" Alexander Chalmers.

After a brief recess the committee presented the following report of officers of the chartered Chapters, or their duly appointed proxies, and Past High Priests, by service within this jurisdiction, as present and entitled to seats, viz. : from

San Francisco, ... No. 1,	{ SAMUEL STERNHEIM, High Priest ; LOUIS COHN, Past High Priest ; JOHN DUNBAR CREIGH, Past High Priest.	
Sonora, No. 2,	ALVIN BACON PRESTON, Scribe and Past High Priest.	
Sacramento, No. 3,	{ WILLIAM MONROE PETRIE, High Priest and P.H.P. ; POWELL SAMUEL LAWSON, Past High Priest.	
California, No. 5,	{ ALFRED COOLIDGE WAITT, High Priest ; JOSEPH MILLER LITCHFIELD, King ; ALEXANDER GURDON ABELL, CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, GEORGE TUTTLE GRIMES, WILLIAM THOMAS REYNOLDS, JAMES LAIDLEY, JOHN FRANCIS SNOW, HIRAM THROOP GRAVES, WILLIAM WILSON TRAYLOR, JOHN KIRKPATRICK, JOHN WILLIAM HARVILLE, SAMUEL GRAVES,	Past High Priests.
Nevada, No. 6,	{ THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL, Past High Priest ; CHARLES MARSH, Past High Priest and Rep.	
Benicia, No. 7,	TIMOTHY SAGE, High Priest and Past High Priest.	
Shasta, No. 9,	LOUIS WELLENDOFF, High Priest.	
Sutter, No. 11,	ROBERT AITKEN, King.	
Calaveras, No. 12,	Not represented.	
Washington, No. 13,	EDMUND TAYLOR WILKINS, Past High Priest and R.	
Howard, No. 14,	{ WILBER JUSTUS WILCOX High Priest ; WILLIAM ALEXANDER JANUARY, Past High Priest ; GEORGE MAY, Past High Priest.	
Cyrus, No. 15,	JOHN WALDO THOMPSON, Representative.	
St. James, No. 16,	GEORGE HEIRN GILBERT, High Priest and P. H. P.	
Libanus, No. 17,	{ EDWARD GEORGE SPENCER, King ; JAMES ROSS, Past High Priest.	

- Grass Valley*,...No. 18,.....REUBEN LEECH, High Priest and P. H. P.
- Trinity*,.....No. 19,..... { OLO CHRISTIAN CHRISTIANSEN, High Priest;
WILEY JAMES TINNIN, Past High Priest.
- Franklin*,.....No. 20,.....THOMAS CALLOW, High Priest and P. H. P.
- Sierra*,.....No. 21,.....WILLIAM THOMPSON LUTHER, High P. and P. H. P.
- Petaluma*,.....No. 22,.....BENJ. F. TUTTLE, P. H. P. and proxy for H. P.
- Oliver*,.....No. 23,..... { AMBROSE HALL COWDEN, H. P. and P. H. P. ;
JAMES RUSSELL GLOVER, Past High Priest.
- La Fayette*,.....No. 24,.....Not represented.
- Georgetown*,.....No. 25,..... { JOHN DODD SKINNER, High Priest;
SOLOMON ADAMS BERRY, King.
- Oakland*,.....No. 26,..... { THATCHER PETER WALES, H. P. and P. H. P. ;
JEREMIAH ELKINS WHITCHER, Past High Priest.
- Delta*,.....No. 27,.....CHARLES JOHN HELLWIG, High Priest.
- Stockton*,.....No. 28,..... { ALEXANDER CHALMERS, High Priest;
GEO. ALEXANDER MCKENZIE, King;
WILLIAM ABRAHAM DAVIES, } Past High Priests.
EDWARD RICHARD HEDGES, }
- Manzanita*,.....No. 29,..... { JOHN STORER MCBRIDE, H. P. and P. H. P. ;
JOHN AMBROSE SEELY, Past High Priest.
- Napa*,.....No. 30,..... { ROBERT CROUCH, High Priest and P. H. P. ;
HENRY HAY KNAPP, Past High Priest.
- Martinez*,.....No. 31,.....THOMAS ALLEN BROWN, High Priest and P. H. P.
- Los Angeles*,.....No. 33,..... { SAMUEL PRAGER, King ;
HENRY SAYRE ORME, Past High Priest.
- Alturas*,.....No. 34,.....PETER R. MEIKLE, High Priest.
- Naval*,.....No. 35,..... { GEORGE FAYETTE MALLETT, High Priest ;
FRANK WORTHY CUSHING, King ;
JOHN MILLS BROWNE, } Past High Priests.
OSGOOD HILTON, }
- Alameda*,.....No. 36,..... { WALTER LAIDLAW, High Priest ;
THOMAS JEFFERSON ARNOLD, King ;
GEORGE FREDERICK ALLARDT, Scribe ;
JOSEPH BONAPARTE SCOTCHLER, } Past High Priests.
NATHAN WESTON SPAULDING, }
- Siloam*,.....No. 37,..... { MELVIN SYMS GARDNER, High Priest and P. H. P. ;
JACOB HART NEFF, Past High Priest.
- Santa Cruz*,.....No. 38,..... { JOHN MURRAY BROWN, High Priest and P. H. P. ;
JOHN NELSON BESSE, } Past High Priests.
JAMES HENRY HOADLEY, }
- Donner*,.....No. 39,.....ELLE ELLEN, High Priest.
- Red Bluff*,.....No. 40,.....ADONIRAM JUDSON LOOMIS, High Priest, and P. H. P.
- Temple*,.....No. 41,.....JAMES MARTIN RODGERS, High Priest and P. H. P.
- Chico*,.....No. 42,..... { CARNOT COURTLAND MASON, High Priest ;
CHARDES LEWIS POND, Past High Priest.
- Solano*,.....No. 43,..... { ALBERT FREDERICK KNORP, High Priest ;
STEPHEN KIRBY NURSE, Scribe ;
WILLIAM SEWALL WELLS, Past High Priest.

Making forty chartered Chapters.

In 1849 he came overland to California and settled at Shasta, where he has been a constant resident to the time of his death, a full quarter of a century. In the language of one who knew him well as companion, physician, and friend, during this whole time, Dr. BENJ. SHUTLIFF, of Shasta, "our deceased companion was a social, convivial, warm-hearted man; a good scholar, and of considerable literary ability, yet he was independent in thought and action, and, while he loved the approbation

of his fellow-men, he had rather be *right* than be *popular*." He was made a Mason in *Western Star* Lodge, No. 2, on the last day of the year 1853; was exalted to the Royal Arch degree in 1855, in *Shasta* Chapter, No. 9, over which body he presided as High Priest for seven years. After serving this Grand Chapter in various stations, at your last Annual Meeting, he was re-elected Deputy Grand High Priest, which position he held at the time of his death.

South Carolina, too, mourns her illustrious dead. On the twelfth November last, Companion JAMES BIRNIE, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of South Carolina, died at his home in Greenville, after a short illness—stricken down at the post of duty in the full vigor of manhood. In honor of his memory, the Deputy Grand High Priest ordered the jewels and furniture of the Craft draped in mourning, and that a blank page be inscribed with his name in the minute book of each subordinate Chapter. Those who had the good fortune to know Comp. BIRNIE pay that earnest, loving tribute to his memory, granted only to the most deserving. Faithful in all things, he honored the Fraternity by his association with it. In his death our sister State loses a noble, patriotic citizen, and Royal Arch Masonry a bright exemplar. Let his name be inscribed on the roll of honor, for he has been of service in his day and generation, and the world is better that he has lived. "The buried grain of wheat must die."

And now, companions, before closing this mourning page, and giving our attention to the special business for which we are assembled, I ask your indulgence for a moment while I briefly refer to a case of peculiar hardship—perhaps in the opinion of some of you rendering myself liable to censure for introducing matter not strictly pertaining to the business of this Grand Body. The only excuse I offer is an appeal to that fraternal veneration always held and readily yielded to our elder brethren. I ask you to second my endeavors to vindicate the memory of one, who was faithful even unto death, Comp. PEREZ SNELL, a Mason of great experience, recognized by the Fathers in the early days as one competent and qualified to teach. He was appointed Deputy of the Supreme Council of Charleston in 1828, and was afterwards Master of *Louisiana* Lodge, No. 32. In Louisiana, he incurred the displeasure of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana and the Supreme Council—which at that time held sway in New Orleans—in consequence of his adherence to the authority of the former, and the legitimate body of the Scottish Rite. In consequence he was expelled by the Consistory, and then at its dictation, by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. Bro. SNELL was never tried in accordance with Masonic usage; and in the Consistory, after the feverish passion of the hour had passed, and subsequent to the fullest investigation by a committee consisting of such well known Masons as Brothers FELLOWS, RISK, and HOLLAND, Bro. SNELL was restored to good standing and fellowship, and created a life member. From the neglect of parties entrusted with the business, the matter was not brought to the attention of the Grand Lodge until after many appeals had been made by Masons in California who knew Bro. SNELL as a neighbor for more than twenty years, and to whom he expressed his earnest desire to have this stigma removed, and finally, at its session in February, 1873, the Grand Lodge of Louisiana declares its action in 1841 to have been improperly taken, rescinds the same, and declares Bro. PEREZ SNELL to have been in good standing at the time of his death. For this action the friends of Companion SNELL (and among them are many of the older Past Grand Officers of this Grand Chapter,) are greatly indebted to and will ever cherish in kindly remembrance the M. W. Grand Master SAMUEL MANNING TODD, for his efforts in this behalf. Our companion has passed beyond the echo of the rescinded resolution, but those among us who remember his tall form, courtly and graceful bearing, with his hearty salutation, feel better for the action; and as we strew flowers over his resting place in the Masonic cemetery in Tuolumne, we have but the regret that while with us he was denied the fellowship he loved so well, and we so much desired. Born in Massachusetts in 1786, he was eighty-four years of age at his death.

The Royal Arch Masons of West Virginia, having organized a Grand Chapter in accordance with established usage, and with the consent and expressed good will of the Mother Chapter, of Virginia, let us bid them "God speed" and accept the assurance of the Grand High Priest of Virginia "that their companions of the West will be an honor and benefit to the cause of Royal Arch Masonry."

At our last Annual Convocation we had under consideration the recognition of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia; but in deference to the protest of the Grand Chapter of Scotland and for lack of time to give the subject that thorough consideration its importance seemed to demand of us, the whole subject was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, with instructions to report at the present session. I believe sufficient time has elapsed to enable the Grand Chapter of Scotland to offer some reasons to the Masonic World in justification of her refusal; and while fully recognizing the general principle of the right of the parent body to exercise authority in these matters, the fact is patent that the recognition asked of us by the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia is in the interest of Royal Arch Masonry. That body is now established upon a firm and permanent basis, and I trust your committee having the matter in charge will promptly report in favor of recognition.

On the 30th November last I appointed R.: E.: Comp. HENRY MCPHERSON Representative of this Grand Chapter near the Grand Chapter of Canada, that body having appointed Comp. CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN Representative of the Grand Chapter of Canada near this Grand Chapter.

From the well known zeal and activity of the representative of our Canadian brethren, I have no doubt of the preservation of amicable relations with our companions "over the border."

On the 12th April, I authorized Comp. CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN to constitute *Visalia* Chapter and install its officers; and at the same date authorized Comp. THOMAS H. CASWELL to constitute *Santa Rosa* and *Woodland* Chapters, and install their officers; all of which duties were performed in accordance with established usage, and proper returns made.

But two special dispensations have been issued during the year—to *Oliver* and *Calaveras* Chapters—and both to elect officers at a time other than that specified in the Constitution, owing to the prevailing storms during last December.

Sundry amendments to the By-Laws have been approved, but as they only relate to changing the time of meeting and amount of dues, need not be referred to in detail here.

Quincy Chapter, whose charter was revoked at your last session, has placed its books and property in the hands of the Grand Secretary, in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution; a report of which will be furnished by that officer.

In the month of January I granted permission for the removal of *Calaveras* Chapter, No. 12, from Snelling to the town and present county seat of Merced County. The removal of the county seat from Snelling, with the business interests appertaining thereto, took with it nearly the entire membership of the Chapter, and permission for the Chapter to accompany its membership became a necessity to its existence, and in accordance with former action in similar cases, upon proper notice being given, and a unanimous request made for permission to remove, I granted their request, and the Chapter is now held at Merced, where the belief is warranted by the interest taken in its success that *Calaveras* Chapter, No. 12, will become a permanently established body.

The triennial session of the General Grand Chapter occurs in November, at Nashville, Tennessee.

The Convention of Royal and Select Masters, held in the City of New York in June, 1873, for the purpose of adopting a uniform ritual, adjourned to meet in New Orleans, on the Monday succeeding the meeting of the General Grand Chapter, for the purpose of concluding its labors.

The Grand Encampment of the United States also assembles in New Orleans in December. An effort has been made to induce the General Grand High Priest to issue an edict changing the place of meeting from Nashville to New Orleans, urging that many would be desirous of attending, or would be accredited to both bodies. Comp. DRUMMOND, of Maine, General Grand High Priest, has replied to the request, declining for several reasons to accede thereto :

First—That there is no conflict in the meeting of the different bodies ; that the time is so arranged, the General Grand Chapter meeting on the 1st day of December, at Nashville, gives ample time to conclude its labors, and for those who desire to reach New Orleans in time to attend the Grand Encampment, and the adjourned Convention of Royal and Select Masters.

Second—That the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter gives the General Grand High Priest the power, the exercise of which is asked for, “if in his opinion there shall be danger to life, or health, from sickness or any other local cause,” by any meeting being held at the time appointed. As the General Grand High Priest has no information of the probability of our companions of Nashville being afflicted with plague, pestilence, or famine, in the fall of the present year, he declines to accede to the prayers of healthy New Orleans, and is willing (to promote so glorious an undertaking) to risk his health, and even life, by taking the chances of a sojourn among our sickly companions, down in Tennessee.

Royal Arch Masons, to be useful members of its great Chapter, should be intelligent interpreters of its history, not resting their faith upon the imaginary legends of some “unknown Scotch brother,” but by the exercise of industrious research, obtained from our well-stored libraries, open to all ; that reliable knowledge without the possession of which, no companion is qualified to “make darkness light,” or crooked things straight. These remarks are made for the purpose of directing the attention of the members of the Grand Chapter, and the Royal Arch Masons of the jurisdiction, to the admirable exposition of the history of the Royal Arch degree by Comp. WM. J. HUGHAN, Provincial Grand Secretary for Cornwall, England, in a communication to Comp. MASON, Chairman of Committee on Correspondence of the District of Columbia, to be found on pages 164 to 172, Grand Chapter Proceedings of last year ; an admirable, concise digest of the origin and history of the “Royal Arch.”

I take this opportunity to call the attention of the Grand Chapter to a much neglected duty. I allude to the imparting to the membership of each Chapter of the information delegated in trust to you, their representatives. The unwritten part you are expected to take every opportunity to communicate, that none may plead ignorance thereof. The portion, however, to which I particularly refer at this time is entrusted to your care for dissemination, in the form of our published proceedings ; a little volume containing information of positive value to the Craft ; an index of the progress of Royal Arch Masonry, which every companion, member of a Chapter, is entitled to. I trust that during the present session some rule may be adopted which will govern the actions of Chapters in the future ; that the four copies forwarded in trust to the officers of each, as custodians and disseminators, shall be regarded less as the private property of the individual. Excuse the reflection, companions, my only apology is my earnest belief in and attachment to the principles of compulsory education, especially when applied to Masonic matters.

The subject of physical qualifications is one of interest to the Chapter organization, and one upon which the statute cannot be too plainly defined. I know the general rule in our jurisdiction is, to evade, by saying that an applicant for the Chapter degrees must be able to conform literally to the requirements of the symbolic degrees. I do not think this sufficiently definite ; and while in the symbolic degrees—the making of Masons—I hold to the strictest construction of the rule, that a candidate should not be deformed nor dismembered, yet I do not concur in the opinion

that a *Mason*, by reason of such dismemberment or deformity, should be debarred from the progress ever sought after by the intelligent Free and Accepted Mason, by reason of such accident. Let us make the rule definite, and if the committee to whom the applicant's petition is referred, shall, upon examination, find upon him a false *hand* or *foot*, representing the originals, let them say to him by authority of the plainly written laws: "We love you, sir, and hold you in all brotherly regard. We know you as a workman full of honor and without guile—a Master of a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons—yet you are dismembered, and, in obedience to the law of California, we must reject you—yes, even though you are able to conform literally to what the several degrees require of you." Let us make the law positive and leave nothing, in so important a particular, subject to the judgment or discretion of a Council, or of the High Priest. I hope this subject may be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, or a special committee, who may report a rule of which we may make a definite regulation, clearly defining the qualifications of applicants for our privileges.

The only important question submitted for my decision during the year was by *Naval* Chapter, in reference to the jurisdictional rights of that Chapter over certain petitioners. The case presented was that of J. F. WENDELL, a resident of Vallejo, until March, 1872; when, by reason of his election to the office of District Attorney of Solano County, he removed to the county seat, in accordance with the law of the State requiring county officers to have and maintain such residence during their terms of office. After residing six months at the county seat, being within the jurisdiction of *Solano* Chapter, he petitions that Chapter, is elected, and receives the degrees therein. *Naval* Chapter presents the case with the comments that J. F. WENDELL had, within the last two years, petitioned, been elected, and received the degrees (symbolic) in *Vallejo* Lodge, at Vallejo. Also that his name was borne on the Great Register of Solano County, with residence at Vallejo. After consideration, I concluded the questions involved to be simply these:

Was Bro. J. F. WENDELL a Master Mason in good standing at the date of his petition to *Solano* Chapter? And had he resided within its jurisdiction, six months next preceding the date thereof?

Both questions being answered in the affirmative, I decided that Bro. J. F. WENDELL was properly subject to the jurisdiction of *Solano* Chapter, and that Chapter had an undoubted right to receive and act upon his petition. My first examination of the matter led me to a different conclusion; but, upon reflection, I thought it best to give to the law its simplest and most direct construction, freeing it from the complications that reference to the codes, or intentions of residence, would burden it with. I therefore took no note of the statement that J. F. WENDELL had petitioned a Lodge in another jurisdiction during his residence in the one complained of, or that his registration on the Great Register indicated a former residence which had not been cancelled.

At no former period in the history of the Grand Chapter of California has there been such abundant reason for returning thanks to God for his great mercies toward us; for the fore-shadowing of this, our most prosperous season. Truly the promise is that the increase shall be an hundred-fold; the vineyard and the grain field give token of abundant harvest, and the promise of prosperity is lighting up the countenance of the farmer and the husbandman. For these and all other blessings received and hoped for, let us be thankful as we join in the grand chorus of "God is gracious, for his mercy endureth forever."

In closing, companions, let me wish you success in your legislative enactments during the present session; may your deliberations be characterized by an honest effort to advance the royal standard; and to those of us who meet around our altar for the last time, may it be a session with no remembrances, save those of duties performed and pleasant anticipations realized.

On motion, it was ordered that the Address of the Grand High Priest be referred to a special committee of three.

The Grand King named as such committee—

On Address of Grand High Priest :..... { Comp. John William Harville,
" Jacob Hart Neff,
.. Nathan Weston Spaulding.

Comp. CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, from the Committee on Correspondence, presented the following report, the reading of which was dispensed with, the members being furnished with printed copies :

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California :

Your Committee on Correspondence respectfully report that the transactions of thirty-two Grand Chapters have been received, viz. :

ALABAMA, .....for Dec.,....1872	MICHIGAN, .....for Jan.,....1874
ARKANSAS, " Oct., ..1872-3	MINNESOTA, " "1873
CANADA, " Aug.,....1873	MISSOURI, " Oct., ....1873
CONNECTICUT, " May, ....1873	NEBRASKA, " June, ....1872
DELAWARE, " Jan., ....1873	NEW JERSEY, " Sept., ...1873
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, " Nov.,..1872-3	NEW YORK, " Feb., ....1873
GEORGIA, " April....1873	NORTH CAROLINA, " June, ...1873
ILLINOIS, " Oct., ...1872	NOVA SCOTIA, " "1873
INDIANA, " " ...1873	OHIO, " Sept, ....1873
IOWA, " "1873	OREGON, " June, ...1873
KANSAS, " "1873	PENNSYLVANIA, " Dec., ....1873
KENTUCKY, " "1873	SOUTH CAROLINA, " Feb., ....1873
LOUISIANA, " Feb., ....1873	TENNESSEE, " Nov., ....1873
MAINE, " May, ....1873	VERMONT, " June, ....1873
MARYLAND, " Nov., ....1873	VIRGINIA, " Dec., ....1873
MASSACHUSETTS, " Dec., ....1873	WISCONSIN, " Jan., ....1878

We regret that the proceedings of Mississippi, New Hampshire, Texas, and West Virginia have failed to reach us, and we can therefore give no tidings from the Craft in those jurisdictions, but, in the proceedings reviewed, we find abundant evidence of the healthy growth and steadily increasing prosperity of Royal Arch Masonry.

As usual, we commence our report with

ALABAMA.

The forty-sixth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Alabama was held in the city of Montgomery, commencing on the third day of December, 1872,—the M.: E.: HENRY CLAY ARMSTRONG, Grand High Priest, presiding, the R.: E.: DANIEL SAYRE being Grand Secretary. Forty-five subordinate Chapters were represented at the opening.

We learn, from the Address of the Grand High Priest, that a better state of affairs exists in that jurisdiction than that reported by him at the previous Convocation. He appears to have had a somewhat easy task during the year, as he reports that no difficult case had been submitted to him, and that his official correspondence had been confined to questions already settled in that jurisdiction. He reports universal peace and harmony, and bestows the following timely caution : " Whilst we congratulate ourselves, let us have care that our harmony does not degenerate into indifference, nor our peace into apathy." The plan adopted at the last Annual Convocation for a general dissemination of the work, does not appear to have succeeded to his satisfaction, as he again refers the matter to the Grand Chapter, urg-

ing its importance, yet acknowledging his inability to see his way clearly through the difficulties which hedge up the way to an end so desirable.

The Grand Treasurer's report shows a balance in the treasury of \$701 90.

We notice that Comp. RICHARD F. KNOTT presented his credentials as representative of the Grand Chapter of California, and was received and accredited in that capacity.

Upon the question of allowing the use of substitutes, we perceive that the course adopted by our own Grand Chapter was pursued by Alabama, that is, no more than one substitute can be used without first obtaining a dispensation from the Grand High Priest.

We were rejoiced to read the following :

WHEREAS, The reasons which induced the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama to declare "that the connection subsisting between the Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama and the General Grand Chapter of the United States be, and the same is hereby dissolved," passed by this M.: E.: Grand Chapter at its Convocation in 1861, have ceased to exist; and,

WHEREAS, This M.: E.: Grand Chapter believes that great good to the R. A. Craft might result in united and harmonious action; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the said resolution be and the same is hereby repealed.

One more triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter, such as that held at Baltimore in 1871, and we predict that there will be no more *outsiders*, but that every Grand Chapter in the United States will hold allegiance to the one governing head. "*So mote it be.*"

The Report on Correspondence is once more from the graceful pen of Comp. P. J. PILLANS, who, notwithstanding his expressed intention to retire from that field of duty, was "surprised, upon the publication of the proceedings, to find himself still the reporter for this Grand Body." It didn't surprise us a bit. The Grand High Priest evidently comprehended the situation, and believing it best when he had a good thing to keep it, quietly appointed Comp. PILLANS, without giving him an opportunity to decline. He reviews in a courteous and fraternal manner, the transactions of thirty-seven Grand Chapters, making copious extracts from each, and noticing everything of interest to the Craft. California for 1871 and 1872 receives kindly notice at his hands. We notice that he says nothing this time about retiring, probably not desiring again to be taken by surprise.

There are fifty-seven Chapters in this jurisdiction, with an aggregate membership of 1914; 123 having been exalted during the year.

The M.: E.: MILES J. GREEN was elected Grand High Priest, and the R.: E.: DANIEL SAYRE was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address: Montgomery.

ARKANSAS.

Jubilate! We have at last succeeded in establishing fraternal intercourse with Arkansas. For three years we have mourned her absence from our family gathering, and "refused to be comforted because she was not." We trust however, we shall miss her no more, but that, clothed in her robe of brilliant scarlet, she will ever be present when we annually call the roll of our sisters, to cheer us with good tidings of the Royal Craft within her borders.

Owing to the fact that the State election took place about the time for holding the Annual Convocation in 1872, the meeting of the Grand Chapter was postponed until January second, 1873, at which time it was held,—the M.: E.: GEORGE A. DANNELLY, Grand High Priest, presiding, the R.: E.: LUKE E. BARBER being Grand Secretary. Twenty-six subordinate Chapters were represented at the opening.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is filled with the true spirit of Masonry, and sparkles with those high and noble sentiments which should ever characterize the true and consistent Mason, especially one who is exalted as a leader and ruler among his brethren.

With reference to the vice of profanity, so frequently and thoughtlessly indulged in by those who should hold the name of the "GREAT I AM" in the most profound veneration, he indulges in the following pertinent remarks:

Intemperance and every species of gaming are to be avoided, but especially would I charge you, my companions, not to neglect the duty of purging our Chapters of the reproach that among us is sometimes to be found the dark stain of profanity.

No R. A. Mason can, consistently with his obligations, commit this crime, the taking of the name of God in vain, the name of him who by his omnific power caused this universe to spring into existence, whose hand upholds all things, who sits upon the circle of the heavens with infinite worlds beneath Him, governing the armies of Heaven and regulating the planets in their onward march, who notices the falling sparrow, and numbers the hairs of our heads, whose name, incommunicable though it be, should be revered as it was in ages past by the good and true of the Royal Craft.

That Royal Arch Masonry is prosperous in Arkansas, is sufficiently evidenced by the fact, that seven dispensations were issued for the formation of new Chapters, and by the following from the address of the Grand High Priest:

In the district between Helena and the northern line of our State, there were, two years ago, but few R. A. Masons, and no Chapter; now there are four flourishing Chapters, with elegant rooms for their meetings, and others in contemplation.

The only decision rendered is the following, in which we heartily concur:

A R. A. Mason who makes application to affiliate with a Chapter should be an affiliated member of a Lodge. I think the same principle should apply on applications to affiliate as on petitions to be made a Royal Arch Mason.

The twenty-fourth Annual Convocation was held in the city of Little Rock, on the ninth day of October, 1873, the M. E. GEORGE A. DANNELLY, Grand High Priest, again presiding, the R. E. LUKE E. BARBER being Grand Secretary. Twenty-nine subordinate Chapters came to the front at this Convocation, a gain of three over the last.

The Grand High Priest delivered an interesting and scholarly address, from which we might select many gems of thought, did time and space permit. He reports the Order to be in a flourishing condition in Arkansas, and renders devout thanks to the Giver of all Good, that while many of the neighboring jurisdictions have been swept by the cholera as with a besom of destruction, their own has, in a great measure, been spared.

Two dispensations had been granted for the formation of new Chapters, but none were issued for special purposes.

We note the following decision, as we do not remember of having heard the question raised before in relation to Royal Arch Masonry:

Many questions have been asked, which I have not thought it necessary to report, as they were answered simply by reference to decisions heretofore made. There is one, however, which I think of importance, and upon which I hope this Grand Chapter will express a very decided opinion, and that is: Is it proper to confer the Chapter degrees upon a candidate who does not believe in the immortality of the soul?

My decision was that no one who does not believe in the immortality of the soul ought to be admitted to the Holy Royal Arch. It is important that you clearly and explicitly decide this question, because it is well known that in some sections of our jurisdiction associations have been formed—congregations they are called—upon the principle openly avowed and taught, that man has no soul in this life, but that souls will be given to some at the resurrection; and I regret to say some Masons have become members of these associations, and afterwards applied for the Chapter degrees.

A man who does not believe in the immortality of the soul, can have no moral balance or responsibility; he must regard himself as simply an educated animal, with no object to attain, no aim in view except to satisfy his animal wants and indulge

his animal propensities. Can such a man understand or appreciate the beautiful lessons taught to those who pass the vails of the Tabernacle? Assuredly not, and no such man should ever, with our consent, approach the sacred altar of Masonry, much less should he sit beneath the shadow of the Royal Arch.

There are in this jurisdiction sixty-five chartered Chapters, but we observe that forty-six only made their returns to the Grand Chapter, and thirty-six were unrepresented at the Annual Convocation. Let us hope a better showing may be made next year.

The surplus funds of the Grand Chapter were, on motion, appropriated to the use of St. John's College, an institution, we believe, under the direct patronage of the Masons of Arkansas.

There is no report on Correspondence and no committee was appointed to prepare one. We regret this, for with such able writers as Companions DANNELLY, ENGLISH and BARBER, we see no reason why Arkansas should "hide her light under a bushel."

The *M. E.* SAMUEL W. WILLIAMS was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* LUKE E. BARBER was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address: Little Rock.

CANADA.

The Grand Chapter of Canada held its sixteenth Annual Convocation in the city of Kingston, commencing on the thirteenth day of August, 1873, the *M. E.* S. B. HARMAN, Grand Z., presiding, the *R. E.* THOMAS B. HARRIS being Grand Scribe E. Forty-four chartered Chapters and three under dispensation were represented at the opening.

As an evidence of the fraternal feeling existing between the Royal Arch Masons of Canada and their companions of the United States, we insert the following:

The *M. E.* Grand Z. announced to Grand Chapter that there were a number of companions on a tour through the Dominion of Canada, from *Lafayette* Chapter, No. 5, Washington, District of Columbia, and who were about to visit this Grand Chapter; and as these companions were in waiting in the ante-room, he desired that they should be admitted, and requested the G. S. E. and the Grand Director of Ceremonies to introduce the companions, who were heartily welcomed and received with the usual honors.

R. E. Comps. E. J. MASON, D. S. JONES, and J. S. MCCOY, having been invited to take seats on the dais, *R. E.* Comp. MASON, on behalf of the companions of *Lafayette* Chapter requested permission to sing an ODE which had been specially prepared for the occasion of their visit to the Grand Chapter of Canada, as follows:

ODE.

BY COMPANION C. C. COX, M. D., LL. D.

AIR—"God save the Queen."

RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED TO THE GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF CANADA BY
LAFAYETTE N. A. CHAPTER, NO. 5, OF WASHINGTON, D. C.

All hail, the mystic tie!
Where'er beneath the sky
Life's course be run,
There ranks on ranks unite
To guard our holy rite—
Tho' strangers here to-night,
Our aims are one.

Now let our songs arise
As incense to the skies—
In love we come!
Not from the battle's bed,
With banners gory red,
Not by the trumpet led,
Nor martial drum.

Where darkness wars with light,
And violence with right,
We seek the fray;
'Gainst darkness we contend,
Ever the right defend,
The helpless poor befriend—
Our care alway.

Let each the other greet,
Fraternally we meet
On British sod!
We bear one honored name,
Our language is the same,
Ours too a common fame,
A common God!

A noble brotherhood,
Undaunted we have stood
For liberty:
Thank God! on land and wave
There breathes no human slave—
From sea to mountain cave
All, all are free!

When mutterings rose of war,
A gentler conqueror
Suppress'd the cry!
IMMORTAL COVENANT!
VICTORIA AND GRANT!
Their praise all tongues shall chant,
No more to die!

Then let the rays unite
In one vast stream of light
That wraps the world!
Till strife and blood decrease,
Wars everywhere shall cease,
While floats the flag of peace
O'er earth unfurl'd.

GOD BLESS OLD ENGLAND'S QUEEN!
Make her broad sway serene,
Prosper her reign!
Not by the power of might,
But by the PEOPLE'S RIGHT,
May she all hearts unite
On earth and main!

Monarch of every land,
Stretch forth Thy mighty hand—
Guide and control!
Make our foundations sure,
Our rulers wise and pure,
And Thou, as years endure,
RULE O'ER THE WHOLE!

The *M. E.* Grand Z. again welcomed our companions from *Lafayette* Chapter, which was suitably responded to by *R. E.* Comp. E. J. MASON.

We think we may hereafter safely designate Comp. MASON as the "*Singing Pilgrim*," and we doubt not Comp. Cox will stand in the future as the Poet Laureate of the Royal Craft. What a relief it must have been to our companions of Canada to learn that their distinguished visitors did *not* come in the manner so graphically described in the second stanza:

"Not as the conqueror comes,
They, the true-hearted, came;
Not with the roll of the stirring drums,
And the trumpet that sings of fame."

How could Comp. MASON stand up in that presence and deliberately sing such an awful *whopper* as that contained in the fifth verse? Where is Cuba, and sundry other localities we wot of? And then it is so refreshing to know that "Victoria and Grant" are an "immortal covenant," and that they are "no more to die." There are *some* people who we *know* are *not* immortal, for which knowledge we render fervent thanks.

The address of the Grand Z. is an able and comprehensive paper, containing much that is interesting and instructive. He devotes considerable space to the memory of those who, having finished their labors here, have gone to take up their work for inspection: among whom we notice with deep regret the name of the venerable companion who, in the absence of the Grand Z., presided in Grand Chapter at the last Annual Convocation.

The *M. E.* Comp. THOMPSON WILSON occupied the throne of Grand Z. in 1858-9, and at the time of his decease had reached the ripe old age of eighty years. He was initiated into Masonry in 1816, and had since held many important Masonic positions, having been Deputy Grand Commander of Knights Templar and Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the 33d degree of the A. and A. Scottish Rite. He had served with distinction in the British Army, and took part in the Battle of Waterloo. As a Mason, he commanded the love and respect of his brethren, who sincerely mourn his loss.

Three dispensations were granted for the formation of new Chapters, and *Saint John's* Chapter, No. 209, working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Ireland, had surrendered its charter to that Grand Body, and received a "dispensation of affiliation" with the Grand Chapter of Canada.

The reports of the Grand Superintendents of the various districts exhibit a most satisfactory state of the Order throughout the jurisdiction, and it is evident that the only contention existing is, as to who shall "best work and best agree." By invitation of the Grand Z., the companions of *Lafayette* Chapter, No. 5, of Washington, D. C., exemplified the work in the Royal Arch degree as practiced in that Chapter, and a vote of thanks was tendered them for the gratification experienced by the companions of the Grand Chapter in witnessing it. As a further compliment to them it was

Resolved, That the M. E. Grand Z. be requested to nominate a committee to whom shall be entrusted the duty of preparing some permanent and suitable memorial of the visit of *Lafayette* Chapter, No. 5, Washington, to the Grand Chapter of Canada, to be presented to that Chapter for preservation among their archives.

The Report on Correspondence is again from the graceful pen of Comp. HENRY ROBERTSON, and is a model of its kind. It is one of those reports that, once commenced, the reader is disinclined to leave until it is finished. He selects with care and discrimination such portions of the proceedings of other Grand Chapters as he deems of general interest to the Craft, and comments upon them intelligently and courteously; his criticisms, when adverse, are without sting, and we know his judgment must be sound, as we almost invariably agree with him. We can not pay him a higher compliment than that bestowed upon him by the Grand Z. in his address, who says:

The thanks of the Grand Chapter are due to the sister Grand Chapters who have favored us with copies of their valued and interesting proceedings, and to R. E. Comp. HENRY ROBERTSON, (Representative of the Grand Chapters of New York and the District of Columbia,) is he again indebted for his almost invaluable synopsis of their varied contents, a task involving labor and discrimination, which can only be appreciated after a careful examination and perusal, which I earnestly commend to Chapters and companions, both in justice to the compiler and from its intrinsic merits.

The proceedings of twenty-eight Grand Chapters are reviewed, and also those of the Grand Mark Lodge of England. California for 1872-3 receives brief but kindly notice. As the Grand Mark Lodge of England is a body concerning which very little is known in this jurisdiction, we take the liberty to appropriate Comp. ROBERTSON'S report upon its transactions entire. Under the head of England, he says:

We have received the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, at the half-yearly Communication, held at London, June 4th, 1872, to which is prefixed a statement of the origin of this Grand Lodge.

From this statement, it appears, that it was organized in June, 1856, after the failure of an attempt to have the degree recognized by, and worked under, the Craft Grand Lodge of England. It is claimed that

"There is probably no degree in Freemasonry that can lay claim to greater antiquity than those of Mark Man or Mark Mason, and Mark Master Mason.

"A Committee of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, appointed to examine into the position of the Degree, reported in 1865:—'In this country from time immemorial and long before the institution of the Grand Lodge of Scotland (in 1736), what is now known as the Mark Master's Degree, was wrought by the Operative Lodges of St. John's Masonry.'

"In A. D. 1598, William Schaw, Master of Works to King James VI., orders the *Marks* of all Masons to be inserted in their work.

"In the seventeenth century, Mother Kilwinning Lodge made members choose their marks and charged them *four shillings* each for the same.

"On January 7th, A. D. 1778, the Banff Operative Lodge resolved—'That in time coming, all members that shall hereafter raise to the Degree of Mark Mason, shall pay one Merk Scots, but not to obtain the degrees of Mark Mason, before they are passed fellow Craft; and those that shall take the degree of Mark Master Mason, shall pay One Shilling and Sixpence sterling unto the Treasurer for behoof of the

Lodge. None to attain to the degree of Mark Master Mason until they are raised Master.' This shows clearly the relative positions of the degrees of Mark Mason or Mark Man, and Mark Master Mason, to each other, and to the Operative Craft. Every Operative Mason, or Fellow Craft, being obliged to be made a Mark Man or Mark Mason, before he could 'Mark' his work. While the degree of Mark Master Mason was confined to those, who as Masters of Lodges or Master Masons, had been chosen to rule over the Fellow Crafts.

"Previous to the Union of the Two Grand Craft Lodges in England, effected in 1813, under the title of 'The United Grand Lodge of England,' the Mark degree was regularly worked in many Lodges, meeting under one or other of the two Constitutions, as well as under the authority of the Grand Lodge, meeting from time immemorial at York. At the said Union, in 1813, the Mark degree was excluded from the system then adopted. One of the articles of the declaration agreed to at such Union being—'Pure and Ancient Masonry consists of three degrees and no more, including the Holy Royal Arch.'"

And the statement thus continues :

"The Mark degree however continued to be extensively worked, especially in the Northern and Midland districts of England, the Lodges being held under immemorial constitution, derived from the Old Athol York Grand Lodge.

"One or other of the Supreme Bodies exercising Masonic Jurisdiction in Scotland, Ireland, and America, has always regarded the Mark degree as an essential and integral portion of Ancient Freemasonry, while in Scotland it is conferred under the authority of both Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter.

"In the United States, since the middle of the last century, the Mark degree has been conferred in independent Mark Lodges, as well as under the authority of Grand Chapters of the Royal Arch.

"In England, as has been shown, the knowledge and working of the degree has never been lost, but it has been practiced from the earliest time in distinct and independent Mark Lodges, which have never acknowledged the jurisdiction of either the Craft Grand Lodges of 1717 or 1813, or of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of 1813.

"In the Colonies much difficulty has been encountered from the establishment of Lodges under different jurisdictions, some recognizing the Mark degree, and some altogether ignoring it. To remedy this state of confusion, an attempt was made in the year 1855, to obtain its recognition as a separate degree by 'The United Grand Lodge of England;' and a committee consisting of members of the Grand Lodge and of members of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of England was appointed to investigate and report upon the subject of the Mark degree.

"Some members of this committee were already Mark Masters; those who had not taken the degree had it conferred upon them in the *Albany* Lodge (time immemorial), Isle of Wight, and in other old Lodges, and some in the *Bon Accord* Mark Lodge, then recently established in London, under a charter received from the *Bon Accord* Royal Arch Chapter of Aberdeen.

"The report of the committee approved by the M.: W.: Grand Master pronouncing the Mark Degree as in their opinion 'not positively essential, but a graceful appendage to the degree of Fellow Craft,' was presented to 'the United Grand Lodge of England' at the Quarterly Communication in March, 1856, and was unanimously adopted.

"Owing, however, partly to the conscientious objections of some of the leading members of Grand Lodge, including the M.: W.: G. M., who maintained that Grand Lodge was pledged by the Articles of Union only to acknowledge the three Craft Degrees as then worked by the Lodge of Reconciliation (including the Royal Arch,) and partly to the disapproval of many Mark Master Masons of the position, it was proposed to assign to the Mark Degree, at the next ensuing Quarterly Communication of 'The United Grand Lodge of England,' on special motion, duly proposed and seconded, that portion of the minutes of the previous Quarterly Communication referring to the Mark Degree was non-confirmed, and the *status in quo ante* was resumed.

"The United Grand Lodge of England" having thus formally declared its inability in accordance with its Constitutions, to adopt the degree into its system, a declaration which has since been repeated on various occasions, several earnest Masons, anxious for its propagation, in place of having recourse to the old English Mark Lodges, applied for and received Charters from the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, under the authority of which they opened Lodges and conferred the Degree of Mark Master in London, and other parts of England.

"Other Mark Master Masons who had taken the degree in various old (time immemorial) English Lodges, together with the members of the *Bon Accord* Lodge, gladly welcoming the increasing appreciation of the Mark Degree, but not approving this attempt to introduce a Foreign Supreme Masonic Authority into England, resolved to constitute a Grand Lodge with jurisdiction over the Mark Degree in this

country and its dependencies, in the establishment of which they at once received the adhesion of the following (time immemorial) Lodges:—

The Northumberland and Berwick, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Royal Cumberland, Kent; Bath, London.

"The Mark Degree was thus placed under an independent central authority, in accordance with the precedent already set with respect to the Royal Arch Degree, by the Grand Chapters of England and Scotland; as well as by the four London Lodges in the establishment of a Grand Lodge in London, A. D. 1717, 'The Grand Lodge of All England' then meeting at York.

"The Right Honorable Lord *Leigh*, Provincial Grand Master of Warwickshire [Craft], a thoroughly constitutional Mason, and a personal friend of the M. W. Grand Master of England, was unanimously elected Grand Master of the new organization, and lent most valuable assistance in framing its laws and maturing its system of government.

"The first meeting of the New Grand Lodge was held in June, 1856, when a desire for a general union of all the Mark Masters in England under one head was most warmly expressed. To give effect to this desire, a meeting was convened, on May 30th, 1857, of representatives from all existing Mark Lodges in England, wherever they could be found; and at this meeting, which was largely attended, a Committee was appointed to concert measures for organizing a union of all regular Mark Master Masons. This Committee reported in favor of a general union of all Mark Lodges upon equal terms in a Grand Mark Lodge.

"Meanwhile, several of the Lodges holding Charters from the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland became desirous of uniting under one Supreme body in this country; considering it 'derogatory to the national character to apply to a sister country for warrants of Constitution,' and a circular was issued in September, 1858, by the Masters of these, advocating a union with the Grand Mark Lodge. Additions were thus continually made to the Lodges ranging themselves under the banner of the Grand Lodge, and Lord Leigh continued to be elected Grand Master till June, 1860, when he was succeeded by the Earl of Carnarvon.

"Of old (time immemorial) Lodges now acknowledging the supremacy of this Grand Lodge, there are:—

The Northumberland and Berwick,	Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
" Royal Cumberland,	Bath.
" Kent,	London.
" Prince Edward,	Halifax, Yorkshire.
" Friendship,	Devonport.
" Minerva,	Hull.
" Benevolent.	Stockport.
" Portsmouth,	Portsmouth.
" Roberts,	Rochdale.
" Knights of Malta,	Hinckley.

"Of the Lodges originally holding Charters from Scotland, there are:—

The Bon Accord,	London.
" Thistle,	London.
" Cheltenham and Keystone,	Cheltenham.
" West Lancashire,	Liverpool.
" Southwark,	London.
" St. Mark's,	London.
" Langley,	Cardiff.

The Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons is now on terms of friendly reciprocity as regards the Mark Degree with the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Ireland, and is represented near the Grand R. A. Chapters of Canada, Pennsylvania, and Iowa. It is also in alliance with the S. G. C. 33°, the order of K. T., and the order of the Red Cross of Constantine.

"Grand Masters from the date of Constitution of Grand Mark Lodge of England and Wales: Right Honorable Lord LEIGH, 1856; Right Honorable the EARL OF CARNARVON, 1860; VISCOUNT HOLMESDALE, M. P., 1863; W. W. B. BEACH, Esq., M. P. 1866; Rev. GEORGE RAYMOND PORTAL, M. A., 1869.

M. W. Bro. Rev. G. R. PORTAL was present as Grand Master, and V. W. Bro. FREDERICK BINCKES, Grand Secretary.

The General Board reported the continued prosperity of the Order. Five hundred certificates were issued during the previous six months, and ten warrants were granted to new Lodges.

It was decided that the W. M. of a Mark Lodge must have been installed W. M. of a Craft Lodge, before being eligible to the Chair, except by dispensation from the Grand Master, and that if such dispensation was granted, none of the secrets of the Master's Chair (Craft Lodge) should be given at the installation.

Receipts, £347 5s. 0d.; expenditure, £251 0s. 11d.; balance on hand, £212 18s. 4d. There are 148 Lodges on the roll.

REPRESENTATIVES.—To Canada, R.: W.: Bro. T. B. HARRIS; from Canada, V.: W.: FREDERICK BINCKES.

M.: W.: Bro. Rt. Hon. EARL PIERCE was elected Grand Master, and the Grand Secretary was re-appointed.

In his notice of Louisiana, he quotes a portion of the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence on the question of objections to elected candidates, wherein the Committee do not agree with the Grand High Priest that a candidate who has been elected and estopped by the objection of a member, must be considered as rejected and his money returned to him, &c. Such objection may be subsequently withdrawn, when the candidate, (no other objections being made,) could take his degrees.

And upon this theme he discourses as follows :

We are glad they "put on the brakes" *somewhere*. This objection business is being carried on decidedly too far. Where it is allowed, it gets the Grand Chapter and their subordinates into all sorts of difficulties, and at nearly every session a *new law* has to be passed to meet some particular case which has arisen since the last, until even now, although this question is comparatively a new one, the legislation and decisions on this point alone, would make a respectable volume. Here, in Canada, we have no law on the subject, either for or against "objections after election," and we find no inconvenience whatever from the want of one. But if a law must be had, how much better and easier, and more simple it would be, to allow no objections except *for cause*, and to require the objections to be followed by a *charge* and *due trial*. We believe that a M. M. who can be shown to be unfit to be made a R. A. M., is not fit to remain a M. M.; and if he cannot be thus shown to be unfit, and the companions by a unanimous ballot have decided to accept him, we hold that he is entitled to the Chapter degrees, and to receive that information which he is told in the Craft Lodge, belongs to him as a M. M., but which he cannot get there.

Our own theory is, that an objection should bar the admission of a candidate, until such objection is removed; but when the candidate has once entered the portals of the tabernacle, he has acquired certain rights which he did not before possess, and which no simple objection should deprive him of.

We notice that the writer received the high honor of being appointed Representative of the Grand Chapter of Canada near the Grand Chapter of California, an honor which, we assure our companions, is fully appreciated, and we will endeavor to see that the interests of our sister Grand Chapter do not suffer in our hands. There are forty-four chartered Chapters in this jurisdiction, with an aggregate membership of 1814.

The M.: E.: C. D. MACDONNELL was elected Grand Z., and the R.: E.: THOMAS BIRD HARRIS was re-elected Grand Scribe, E. Address: Hamilton, Ontario.

CONNECTICUT.

The Grand Chapter of Connecticut assembled in Semi-annual Convocation in the city of Norwalk on the eighteenth day of October, 1872, apparently for the purpose of witnessing an exemplification of the work, as no other business was transacted, except the passage of a resolution calling upon certain Chapters, not represented, to show cause, if they had any to show, why something should not be done to them for contempt of Court in not putting in an appearance.

We confess our inability to see the utility of these semi-annual meetings. If the object be simply to exemplify the work, we should suppose that might better be accomplished at the Annual Convocation—even were one day's time devoted to it. Where the Convocations are held but once in each year, a much better attendance is secured, and a warmer interest manifested than is the case where more frequent meetings are held. Members generally can afford to spare a day or two from their business pursuits once a year, to attend the Convocations of the Grand Chapter, but when they are called upon to do it twice or more, the duty becomes irksome.

The seventy-fifth Annual Convocation was held in the City of New Haven on the thirteenth day of May, 1873,—the *M. E.*: WILLIAM WALLACE LEE, Grand High Priest, presiding ; the *R. E.*: JOSEPH K. WHEELER being Grand Secretary.

Thirty-two subordinate Chapters were represented at the opening, and all the Grand officers except one of the Grand Stewards were present. The address of the Grand High Priest is brief, and confined entirely to matters of local interest.

He pays a well merited tribute of respect and affection to the memory of Comp. WILLIAM STORER, for many years Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, another whose life labor had ended during the year.

He questions the right of a presiding officer to dispense with a written law or suspend its operation, in which we agree with him, unless the written law itself prescribes the manner in which it may be suspended. We are no believer in the divine right of Kings, or Grand Masters, or Grand High Priests, but believe they should exercise such rights as are given them by the Constitution, and no others.

A resolution was adopted, authorizing the Grand High Priest to appoint, annually, some competent companion as his proxy to visit each Chapter in the jurisdiction, to inspect their condition and to afford them such instruction as they may need, the expenses of such officer to be paid by the Grand Chapter. A good move. The Grand Chapter of West Virginia was recognized, and the right hand of fellowship extended to her.

The Report on Correspondence is from the pen of Comp. JNO. N. LEWIS, a new laborer in the vineyard, but if we may judge from the specimen of his skill now before us, he will pass the Master Overseer and receive his wages—provided they pay any in Connecticut. His report extends over one hundred and eight pages, and is a very full, careful and courteous *resumé* of the transactions of twenty-eight Grand Chapters, including California for 1872. He quotes approvingly from the address of Comp. ENGLISH, and fully endorses that portion relative to the use of substitutes, and the subsequent action of the Grand Chapter thereon. He notices that among the officers of our Grand Chapter there is no Grand Principal Sojourner, and calls upon us to explain the omission. The office of Principal Sojourner would simply be a useless one in Grand Chapter, where no degrees are conferred. The duties of that officer are peculiar to the subordinate Chapters. His mission is to “lead the *blind* by a way they know not,” whereas the members of the Grand Chapter are supposed to see their way clearly, and to know the path in which they travel.

With regard to our statement that, in California, we recognize no right or prerogative as belonging to Grand Master or Grand High Priest to “make Masons at sight,” he says : “While not deeming it a question of much practical importance, we must show our ignorance by saying that we never before supposed it doubted by any one beside our six Rhode Island companions referred to by Comp. Lockwood.” This question has been so often and so elaborately argued by able and learned Masons, on both sides, that we deem it unnecessary to waste much time upon it now. Yet, we can assure Comp. LEWIS that California and Rhode Island are by no means alone in their denial of this so-called prerogative. While we are aware that in many jurisdictions it is admitted, yet, in Louisiana, Massachusetts, Missouri, Tennessee, and other States, not now occurring to our mind, it is positively denied.

Before the days of written Constitutions, the Grand Masters were endowed with many rights and prerogatives which they do not now possess. Under the present system, the powers and duties of the Grand Master are as clearly prescribed as those of any other officer, and he is equally amenable to the law. In the “Ancient Constitutions,” no mention is made of any such prerogative, and we must therefore conclude that, if any such right really existed, it has been abrogated by the written law. Even if claimed, and allowed as one of the prerogatives of Grand Masters, by what right or authority can a Grand High Priest claim its exercise ?

Comp. LEWIS agrees with us relative to Chapters U. D., and we can assure him

that his "modest cross-bow" is acceptable in the ranks where many more of all arms have joined us. There are many good things in this excellent report which we would gladly present to our readers, but we must stay our hand.

The *M. E.* WM. WALLACE LEE was re-elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* JOSEPH K. WHEELER was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address : Hartford.

DELAWARE.

The fifth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Delaware was held in the city of Dover on the fifteenth day of January, 1873,—the *M. E.* J. R. MCFEE, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* J. P. ALLMOND being Grand Secretary.

The Address of the Grand High Priest affords abundant evidence that the Royal Craft in Delaware is established upon a firm and enduring basis. He says :

The machinery of the Grand Chapter, and of the several subordinate Chapters, has moved so smoothly and quietly as to require but little supervision or care on my part. Peace and harmony prevail throughout our jurisdiction. No unusual alarm is heard at our portals, and the voices of strangers and enemies to Masonic union have ceased in our midst. In the fullness of friendship and faith, the companions generally, as true descendants of the workmen of Lebanon, have characterized their intercourse with themselves and others by kind and courteous conduct ; by earnest devotion to the noble principles of our Institution, and by untiring zeal in the promotion of its interests, and the exercise of its charities and duties. In this gratifying condition of affairs, my official acts have been so few and unimportant, that the statement of them in writing required by the twelfth section of the first article of our Constitution must be, necessarily, very brief and uninteresting.

In the following we fully concur :

The well known aphorism, "The world is governed too much," though trite, is as true in Masonry as in the affairs of State ; and instead of trammeling and fettering our subordinate Chapters by excessive legislation, it would be more judicious to remit them to the guidance of their own enlightened experience, and the exercise of their own sound discretion and judgment.

He closes with the following peroration, which is so good, we cannot resist the temptation to insert it here :

And now, companions, in entering upon the labors of this Convocation, let us cherish the mysterious and solemn ties which unite us together, and let us pledge anew our vows of Holy Brotherhood. Let us remember that we owe it to ourselves to maintain harmony, to soothe irritation, to aid and assist, to promote Charity ; and that we owe it to our noble Institution to advance its best interests, to examine its movements, to regulate its progress, to protect it from danger, and to see that the snow-white banner of its purity receives no spot or stain. So shall we depart from this hall with the testimony of a good conscience, and the proud satisfaction that our work has been good work, square work, such as there are orders to receive. And so, if true to ourselves and our God, shall we pursue our journey of life that leads to the City and the Temple, treading with confidence every dangerous path and every rugged way, penetrating, humbly yet fearlessly, every solemn veil ; comforted and cheered by every mysterious sign and word of exhortation ; and when the great proclamation shall be pronounced from the Throne, we will go up to the New Jerusalem duly and truly prepared to aid and assist in re-building that house, beneath whose living arches the mysteries of the future will be revealed.

There are five subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction, and all were represented. Total membership, two hundred and twenty-five.

The "Committee on Work" reported that it seemed to be impossible to get the committee together, and asked to be discharged, which was done. So far as our experience has extended, "Committees on Work" are exceedingly unanimous in not getting together ; and, if by any chance a connection is made, it generally requires the strongest kind of adhesive plaster to hold them together.

We find no Report on Correspondence, and no committee appointed to prepare one. We hope our companions of Delaware will yet become converted to the idea that Reports on Correspondence are useful in the dissemination of knowledge, and let us hear from them another year.

The *M. E.* GEORGE W. STONE was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* J. P. ALLMOND was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address : Wilmington.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The proceedings of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia for the year 1872, were not received by us in time for our last report, which we regret for the reason that we should have been glad to have devoted more space to them than will now be possible, when two years are to be reviewed.

The Annual Convocation was held in the city of Washington on the twelfth day of November, the *M. E.* J. DANIELS, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* C. W. HANCOCK being Grand Secretary.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is brief and treats of matters of local interest only. The following, however, calls forth a responsive echo from the cavity where our Masonic heart is supposed to be located :

Companions : I have no other recommendations to make, save the admonition to the members of this Grand Chapter who are officers in the Subordinate Chapters, to guard well the entrance to the Tabernacle. The large number dropped from the rolls in some of the Chapters, while it is not sufficient to interfere with the prosperity of the Chapters, it nevertheless shows that some have been permitted to enter who have been attracted to the spot either by idle curiosity or other improper motives ; and having once passed the vails and been permitted to engage with us in one of the most glorious works in which it was ever the privilege of man to engage, their zeal, if they ever had any, dies at the threshold. They become drones in the hive, and have no more appreciation of symbolism of the *Holy Royal Arch* than the blind dog-fish in the Mammoth Cave has of the beauties and brilliancy of the noon-day sun ; and, my Companions, may it not be the case with us all that in our desire to keep pace with the rapid growth of Masonry, we, to some extent, lose sight of the necessity of scrutinizing with jealous eye the material with which we build ; for no man who is fit to be a Mason, and who properly appreciates the work in which he is engaged, will, under ordinary circumstances, allow his name to be dropped from the rolls of the craft, and help swell the ranks of those nondescripts—unaffiliated Masons. The fear is not that we shall build too slow, but that the work and material will be such as will not stand the test of the storm of proscription and persecution which is sure sooner or later to descend and beat upon our Temple.

The Report on Correspondence is from the pen of Comp. NOBLE D. LARNER, who in an interesting and able manner reviews the transactions of twenty-nine Grand Chapters, among them California for 1872. He quotes from the address of Comp. ENGLISH, that portion relative to the use of substitutes, and the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence relative thereto, upon which he comments as follows :

This sort of legislation is becoming quite popular in some quarters, and we would like to have some one explain to us how a Grand Chapter which has heretofore prohibited, from a conscientious conviction that it was wrong, the use of substitutes, can pass such resolutions. What has been done to make it right to use one substitute ? Has our ritual been changed to accommodate all parties, whether they wish to use one or two ? We trust this half-way legislation will cease. If California believes it is proper to use substitutes, why does she not repeal her law forbidding their use entirely ? There is no middle ground in this question. You must either declare the use of them right or wrong. We contend that with the present wording of the ritual, it is wrong to use them, and hold that no Grand Chapter has the right to authorize their Subordinate Chapters to use them, the opinion of the General Grand Chapter to the contrary.

A charter for one new Chapter was granted.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Comp. WIGGIN, Grand Secretary, in which he presents a very interesting *resumé* of the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter and thirty-two Grand Chapters ; those of the District of Columbia for 1870 receiving quite an extended notice.

We have no desire to reiterate, at this time, the arguments we have heretofore used in favor of the use of substitutes ; probably no question has ever arisen in the jurisprudence of Masonry, upon which a wider difference of opinion has been exhibited ; yet, we regard the General Grand Chapter as the supreme, legislative head of the Craft, and when that Body, in solemn Convocation assembled, declares that the use of substitutes is not repugnant to any law of Royal Arch Masonry, we feel that we may avail ourselves of the conveniences which the system affords, without committing a wrong or stultifying ourselves in any previous action.

The report is tersely and courteously written; no disagreeable personalities are indulged in, and although Comp. LARNER vigorously presents his own views upon all matters of general interest, he denounces no one for differing with him in opinion; but, even when handling his *bête noir*, the General Grand Chapter, he is courteous and forbearing. There are many excellent points in his report which we would gladly present, but we must content ourselves with the following, trusting that the Grand Chapter of Virginia may take the hint and adopt the plan proposed. In his review of Virginia, he makes the following extract from the address of the Grand High Priest. Referring to the Council degrees, he says:

"I find in our border Chapters some confusion, arising from visiting companions who have not taken the Council degrees at all, or who have taken them in separate Councils, not acknowledging Chapter authority. If they have never taken them at all, they cannot be present during all of our Chapter work. Our laws would forbid this. If they have taken them in distinct Councils, their own laws would forbid them to sit with us when working in the Council degrees. I would recommend that this matter be brought to the attention of the various Grand Chapters and Grand Councils in this country, and that a committee be appointed for this purpose in order that we may all possess uniformity in Chapter work."

Upon which Comp. LARNER remarks:

The Grand Chapter having heretofore tried the plan here proposed without success, the recommendation of the Grand High Priest was not concurred in. We would suggest to our companions of Virginia that there is one plan which they have not tried, and which, in our opinion, is the only one that will bring them peace and quiet on this subject, namely: strike the degrees from your Chapters, and let the companions who may desire to do so form Councils and confer the degrees therein.

So mote it be.

The *M. E.* ABNER T. LONGLEY was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* L. G. STEPHENS was elected Grand Secretary.

The Semi-Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held in the City of Washington on the thirteenth day of May, 1873,—the *M. E.* A. T. LONGLEY, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* L. G. STEPHENS being Grand Secretary.

Representatives were received and greeted from Iowa and Nova Scotia, and appointed near those Grand Chapters, as well as that of Maine. No other business, except of a strictly local character, was transacted.

The Annual Convocation was held on the eleventh day of November, 1873, all the Grand Officers, save one, being present, and eight subordinate Chapters—all in the jurisdiction—were represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered a good address, in which he states that his duties have not been particularly arduous, and gives us the gratifying information that "uninterrupted prosperity continues throughout the jurisdiction."

We note the following decisions, which have our concurrence:

I have been called upon by *Lafayette* Chapter, No. 5, to decide upon the following case:—

A brother Master Mason in good standing, in the State of Illinois, but now a resident of this city, petitions their Chapter for the degrees, but stated on the petition that some three years previous he had petitioned a Chapter in Illinois, (being then a resident of that jurisdiction,) and had been elected, but having been called away from the State, he had not been able to obtain the degrees.

I decided the Chapter could not receive the brother's petition, but could confer the degrees upon the petitioner upon the request of the Chapter in which he had been elected.

Also, from the same Chapter the following questions, viz.—

1st. Can a protest be entered by a member of another Chapter against a candidate taking the degrees in this Chapter?

2d. Is it proper to enter a protest against a candidate taking the degrees by a member of this or any other Chapter by giving it verbally to the *M. E.* High Priest, or should it be in writing and filed with the Secretary?

Answer. A protest against a candidate receiving the degrees should be presented by a member of the Chapter in which the petition was acted upon, and by no other; and it should be in writing, and filed with the Secretary, that it may become a matter

of record, thereby doing no injustice to the Chapter, the companion protesting, or to the candidate.

From the address we also learn that each Chapter had been visited officially and the work exemplified; that the degrees were conferred in a very creditable manner, and that there is a "uniformity in the work not equaled in any other jurisdiction." This is as it should be. Nothing so greatly tends to enhance the interest in the work and lectures, and to excite the ambition of the members to excel, as frequent visits by Grand Officers: yet, while this can easily be accomplished in a small jurisdiction, with but few Chapters to reach, it would be impossible in California, where hundreds of miles would have to be traversed to reach some of the Chapters. It strikes us that the views of the Grand High Priest, as expressed in the following, are eminently sound:

One of our Chapters. (*Lafayette*, No. 5,) during the past year, has been highly honored, by having received from the Grand Chapter of Canada an invitation to make them a fraternal visit, and exemplify the work of this Grand Chapter before that Grand Body. The invitation was accepted, the trip made, and the Royal Arch degree exemplified in a very satisfactory manner, I am informed.

While I am satisfied that the officers of *Lafayette* or any other Chapter in this jurisdiction could exemplify the Capitular degrees before the Grand Bodies of this, or any foreign country, with credit to themselves and to this Grand Chapter, still I am fully of the opinion that an invitation of this kind, from a Grand to a subordinate Chapter, should have come through this Grand Chapter, and the Grand Representative of Canada near this Grand Chapter must have forgotten to extend that courtesy due from one grand body to another.

While I have no cause to complain of the action of *Lafayette* Chapter or her officers in this particular instance, I would recommend that the Grand Chapter adopt some rule requiring the sanction of this Grand Body or the *M. E. G. H. P.* before any Chapter could appear officially in any public procession, (except in cases of funeral,) or going to other jurisdictions either to confer the degrees or exemplify the work.

He speaks in glowing terms of his visit to the new Masonic Temple in Philadelphia, and of the courteous reception accorded to him and the officers who accompanied him, by the Grand Officers of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania. We hope sometime to feast our vision upon the beauties of this magnificent structure, for magnificent it must be if the descriptions which have reached us approximate to the truth. He speaks of the terrible epidemic which so lately desolated the fair cities of Shreveport and Memphis, and compliments the companions upon the promptitude with which they responded liberally to the call for aid. If the following extract does not express the true principle of Masonic charity and fraternal sympathy, we have failed to understand or appreciate it:

How soon would the Angel of Death have stayed his relentless work in our sister cities could our prayers have been answered. Let us render thanks unto God that at the present time the direful scourge is passing away; and may we not hope that it will soon entirely disappear. Continue on, then, my companions, in your generous and noble acts of charity, whenever called upon by those in distress, and I assure you, you will always find, "that it is more blessed to give than to receive."

An assessment of forty cents was levied upon each member of the subordinate Chapters, for the purpose of liquidating the outstanding indebtedness of the Grand Chapter.

The Report on Correspondence comes from a fresh and genial hand, being from the pen of Comp. E. B. MACGROTTY, of whom we have not hitherto heard as a Masonic writer, but hope to hear from him often in the future. He reviews the transactions of twenty-five Grand Chapters, including that of Scotland, in a manner which would lead us to believe he was an old hand at the business. California for 1873, receives fraternal notice at his hands. He says of our proceedings: "The pamphlet containing the proceedings of this Grand Chapter is a model of neatness and beautiful typography, and is certainly a credit to all concerned in its publication."

We take off our hat, and in company with our Grand Printer, make our lowest salaam. We are pleased to see the following evidence that the *entente cordiale* has been re-established between our companions of the District of Columbia and those of Louisiana.

In his review of the latter jurisdiction, Comp. MACGROTTY thus fraternally announces the reconciliation :

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of Comp. JOSEPH HORNER, Grand High Priest elect, and who, by the way, was unanimously requested by the Grand Chapter to continue to discharge the duties of Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. Comp. HORNER reviews in an impartial and truly fraternal spirit the proceedings of thirty six Grand Charters, ours being among the number, quoting freely from Comp. LARNER's Report on Foreign Correspondence, and also paying a high compliment to Comp. LARNER on the excellence of his report, and expressing his regret in not having room to quote further from it.

As there has been a *slight* degree of *onpleasantness* between these two Grand Bodies, growing out of some remarks made by a former Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of this Grand Chapter in his review of Louisiana for the year 1871, we take great pleasure in being able to announce that all differences have been wiped out, that we have struck hands with our companions of Louisiana, and sincerely hope and trust that no occasion will again arise to cause any differences or unpleasantness between us. Comp. HORNER very gracefully and courteously acknowledges his satisfaction at the explanation given by Comp. LARNER, and immediately enters into a hearty and fraternal review of our proceedings, devoting two pages of his report to that purpose, and expresses the hope to hear from Comp. LARNER again. We wish that hope had been gratified, as the reportorial mantle has fallen upon shoulders that are not so broad as Comp. LARNER's nor so well able to maintain the dignity and report the doings of our sister Grand Bodies.

We can also say that we much regret the want of time and space to quote further from this very excellent and interesting report, and we beg leave to assure Comp. HORNER that this is not said in the Mutual Admiration vein, but simply expresses exactly what we feel and believe ; and in taking leave of Comp. HORNER, we embrace the opportunity to congratulate him upon his elevation to the exalted position in which the companions of Louisiana have seen fit to place him, and sincerely hope that he may live long to wear the honors thus worthily bestowed.

The report is a pleasant one to read, and we wish we had space to make further extracts.

The M. E. NOBLE D. LARNER was elected Grand High Priest, and the R. E. L. G. STEPHENS was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address : Washington.

GEORGIA.

The transactions of the Grand Chapter of Georgia for the year 1873, are contained in a pamphlet of twenty-four pages.

The Annual Convocation was held in the city of Augusta on the thirtieth day of April, 1873, the M. E. GEORGE W. ADAMS, Grand High Priest, presiding, the R. E. J. EMMETT BLACKSHEAR being Grand Secretary.

The address of the Grand High Priest is brief, business-like and to the point ; he indulges in no poetical effusions or flights of fancy, but goes straight to the mark and hits it every time. He had been but once called upon to define the law, and that was in the case of a King of a subordinate Chapter who requested his authority to open the Chapter when the High Priest was present, but refused to open the same. The Grand High Priest modestly declined to comply with the request, on the ground that he could find no authority of law, either written or unwritten, for such a proceeding. We are pleased to see that the committee to whom was referred the Address of the Grand High Priest, administered a well-deserved rebuke to the recalcitrant officer.

With reference to a communication addressed to the Grand Chapter at its last Annual Convocation, by Comp. DRUMMOND, General Grand High Priest, relative to their resuming membership in the General Grand Chapter, he says :

I beg leave to say in this connection, that I hope you will duly consider the causes which induced our separation from the General Grand Chapter, and if they no longer

exist, and there are no other insuperable objections thereto why we should not resume our membership in the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, as it was from them our First Chapters in Georgia obtained their charters and under which Royal Arch Masonry was established in this jurisdiction.

He is evidently not a believer in Reports on Correspondence, as witness the following :

As there was no Committee on Foreign Correspondence appointed at our last Convocation, I have not felt it to be my duty to make any report thereon, as I am skeptic as to any value to be derived by our members from the long Reports on Foreign Correspondence, which appear in our printed Proceedings, cumber our minutes, and tax our treasury.

We fear the last clause furnishes forth the substantial objection, and we can find no cause of complaint against our companions of Georgia for using every method of economy while it is low water in the treasury; yet with the recurrence of the better times which we sincerely hope will soon dawn upon them, we expect again to hear Georgia speak of the doings of her sisters, in such reports as we remember having read from the pens of BLACKSHEAR and LAWRENCE, *lang syne*.

The committee to whom was referred that portion of the Grand High Priest's Address relative to the return of the Grand Chapter to its allegiance to the General Grand Chapter, asked to be granted time until the next Annual Convocation to prepare their report, and in the meantime to ask an expression of opinion from the subordinate Chapters as to the expediency of taking such action, which request was granted. The place of holding the Annual Convocation was changed from Augusta to Macon, by a vote of eighty-four to forty.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were both re-elected. Address: Macon.

ILLINOIS.

The Grand Chapter of Illinois held its twenty-third Annual Convocation in the city of Chicago, commencing on the twenty-fourth day of October, 1872, the *M. E.* JAMES A. HAWLEY, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* JAMES H. MILES being Grand Secretary. All the Grand Officers were present at the opening, together with seven Past Grand High Priests, and the representatives of one hundred and eighteen subordinate Chapters.

The Grand High Priest commences an able Address with devout thanksgiving to the Almighty Father, for the many mercies bestowed upon them. He speaks in feeling terms of the disastrous fire which laid Chicago in ashes in 1871, and eloquently expresses his gratitude for the sympathy and aid so promptly and cheerfully tendered by the companions of other jurisdictions. Of his official acts he says :

The record of my official acts during the past year will be quite brief. The prosperity of our beloved institution is everywhere apparent, not only in this jurisdiction, but throughout our entire country. The gratifying intelligence comes up to us from all quarters that the Royal Craft are uniformly pursuing their labors in peace and harmony, and are quietly but steadily "erecting a second Temple, which we hope will be indeed that Spiritual House not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens." Owing to this happy and prosperous condition of our Order in Illinois, there have been but few demands for official interference. None of these have been of a very grave or serious character, and have, by generous concessions, been happily settled without engendering bad feelings, and to the entire satisfaction of those concerned; and I do not deem it necessary or advisable to occupy your time with a recital of grievances that have already been healed.

Four dispensations to form new Chapters had been issued, and a number of special dispensations for various purposes were granted. Representatives were appointed near the Grand Chapters of Missouri, Oregon, New York, Ontario, Maine, and Mississippi. The following decisions were rendered :

First—That objections to the advancement of a Brother are binding on the High Priest and Chapter so long as the Companion making the same remains a member of that particular Chapter.

Second—That if a Companion making objections to the advancement of a Brother dimits, or is suspended or expelled, the Chapter can proceed in the same manner as if such objections were withdrawn formally.

Third—That objections made by a Companion to the advancement of a Brother in the Chapter of which he is a member are valid and binding although the Companion making the objections resides without the State.

Fourth—That objections made by a Companion in the Chapter of which he is a member, to the advancement of a Brother, cannot be removed by striking the name of the Companion objecting, from the list of members, although said Companion may reside without the State.

Fifth—That the installation of Officers in a Chapter by proxy is not proper or legal.

The right of objection, as recognized by the laws of our Grand Chapter, is a sacred right—and yet—in my opinion—it is a right that, while it is carefully guarded, should be confined strictly to the letter of the law. By its exercise in the broad sense which some are willing to give it, it is more potent and powerful than the ballot itself. In making the fourth decision I was aware that Resolution 14 was staring me in the face, and that the decision was—indirectly if not directly—in conflict with said resolution.

This resolution authorizes, yea it *requires*, the Chapters of this jurisdiction to force from their membership those of our Companions who see fit to cross an imaginary line and take up their residence in another State. But believing as I do that this resolution is contrary to the spirit of our Institution, and that its enforcement would be doing great injustice to very many excellent and worthy companions along the borders of our State, I could not do otherwise than decide—so far as I was compelled to do in this decision—adversely to its enforcement. In my opinion, Chapters should be required to pay Grand Chapter dues for all their members whether residing in or out of this State. I can see no good reason why a Companion who chooses to reside in another State should be compelled to sever his connection with a Chapter in this jurisdiction. Neither can I see any good reason why a Companion, who is a member of a Chapter in this jurisdiction, and resides in another State, should be exempted from bearing his share of the Masonic burdens, or that the Chapter of which he is a member should be relieved from paying its just proportion of the expenses of this Grand Body; and I therefore respectfully, but earnestly, recommend that Resolutions 14 and 15 be rescinded.

I also desire to call the attention of the Grand Chapter to the fifth decision, touching the installation of officers by proxy. This practice is more or less common in our Chapters, and has been the cause of disturbing the peace and harmony of more than one Chapter in this jurisdiction. It tends to lessen the interest in, and takes away the force of, the installation service, and is bound to result in evil, if allowed to go unchecked.

To all which we say Amen!

The following resolution “bothers us intirely:”

Resolved, That the Key Stone of a M. M. Mason shall be the same as the Key Stone of a Royal Arch Mason, and the Subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction are requested to use the same in the work of the Mark Master degree.

This was referred to the “Committee on Work,” but was evidently too much for their mental digestion, as we find no report from them on the subject. The thanks of the Grand Chapter were tendered to the Grand High Priest, for the “able, wise and zealous manner” in which he had discharged his duties, and the Grand Secretary was instructed to procure and present to him a Past Grand High Priest’s Jewel in token of their appreciation of his eminent services.

The Report on Correspondence is again from the pen of the talented Grand Secretary, Comp. JAMES H. MILES, who reviews in his usual courteous and intelligent manner, the transactions of thirty-three Grand Chapters. California for 1872, receives fraternal notice at his hands.

We are sorry that we could not have received the proceedings of this Grand Chapter for 1873, in time for this report; meeting as it does in October, we presume they must be published at the time we write, (March) but perhaps the mails, or the Miles have failed us.

It is dull writing upon matters which have attained an age so venerable, and we trust our worthy *confrere* of the quill will in future give us more juvenile matter to consider.

The *M.:E.:* ASA W. BLAKESLEY was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R.:E.:* JAMES H. MILES was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address: Chicago.

INDIANA.

The twenty-eighth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Indiana was held in the city of Indianapolis, on the twenty-second day of October, 1873, the *M.:E.:* EDEN H. DAVIS, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R.:E.:* JOHN M. BRAMWELL being Grand Secretary. Seventy-six chartered Chapters and two under dispensation were represented at the opening.

The Address of the Grand High Priest commences with the sad announcement that his health had become impaired to such an extent that he had been compelled to retire from business pursuits of every nature, and but for the urgent solicitation of the Deputy Grand High Priest and other friends, he should have resigned his office.

Our *M.:E.:* Companion has our warmest sympathy, and sincere wishes that his shattered health may soon be fully restored to him. Relative to appointing companions as Special Deputies to constitute Chapters, some of whom had made no report of their doings, he says:

A question of some importance might here properly arise in connection with this matter. Should not the Grand Chapter by special enactment make it the duty of any and every Companion appointed to a specific duty to make due report thereof to the proper authority from whence such appointment came? In no other way, it seems to me, can your executive officers come into the possession of such knowledge and information so essentially necessary for them to have in order to a faithful discharge of the various duties required at their hands.

In this jurisdiction, the Special Deputy, in such cases, receives a printed appointment, signed by the Grand High Priest and countersigned by the Grand Secretary, and bearing the seal of the Grand Chapter, and upon the reverse of the sheet is printed a form of report, leaving necessary blanks which he is expected to fill up and forward to the Grand High Priest, and we remember no instance wherein a Special Deputy, invested with one of these formidable documents, has failed to return it with his report.

The following question was propounded:

“Under the laws of the Grand Chapter, does the loss of the right foot render a brother Master Mason ineligible to receive the Chapter degrees?”

The Grand High Priest found this too knotty a point for him to settle, for he thus responds:

This question, involving a matter upon which much diversity of opinion exists, and a similar question, as I find, has been decided in different ways by different jurisdictions, I withheld my decision, and now submit the question for the consideration of the Grand Chapter, where I trust a decision will be had that will be right and satisfactory, and the matter permanently settled, for this jurisdiction at least.

The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom the matter was finally referred, also “gave it up” for the present at least, as they presented the following report:

The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred so much of the *M.:E.:* Grand High Priest's Address as relates to the following question, to wit: “Does the loss of the right foot render a brother M. M. ineligible to receive the Chapter degrees?” having given the subject referred to them as much thought as time will allow, now offer the following report: That upon examination we find the only law the Grand Chapter has made on this subject is found in sections 86 and 87 of the Rules for the government of subordinate Chapters. Your committee think that upon a fair and liberal construction of the law as here laid down, perhaps the simple loss of the right foot does not render a Master Mason ineligible to receive the Chapter degrees, as there is nothing in our ceremonies he might not perhaps comply with in each particular. But your committee think there may be a question behind all this, and which is more than likely the real question in this case. Whether this be so or not, your committee think the whole matter connected with this subject had as well be fully decided by the Grand Chapter, and our laws and rulings upon the subject of “Eligibility of Petitioners” made more plain and definite than they now are. Does the law

of Ancient Craft Masonry in regard to physical defect prevail in capitular Masonry, and to an equal extent? This question, your committee for want of time and opportunity to consult the authorities upon the subject, are unable to arrive at any definite conclusion, and can therefore only recommend that the subject matter of this report be laid over until the next Annual Communication, and that your committee have until that time to consult the authorities, as also the rulings of other Grand Chapters upon this subject, when no doubt a report, satisfactory to your committee at least, may be had.

We advise the committee to answer the question in the affirmative, on the ground that none but men of *right understanding* should be allowed to participate in our ceremonies.

We judge from the following extract, that the Grand High Priest is not an enthusiastic admirer of the Representative system :

On several occasions I have been solicited to commission Representatives near other Grand Chapters ; and although these fancies have been indulged in by my predecessors, under authority of the Grand Chapter, yet upon mature reflection I declined to make any appointments of the kind whatever. This system of exchanging Representatives with other Grand Chapters has now been in practice among the fraternity in the United States for a number of the past years, but what there really is in it, or what benefit has resulted from its use, I am wholly at a loss to perceive. A few names have thus been brought prominently before the fraternity by being reported in our printed Proceedings from year to year as the Representatives of, etc., etc., and this appears to be the whole of it. If anything else has been accomplished by the enterprise, I must confess that I have not been able to see it. If, then, I am correct in my estimate of the matter, might we not as well refrain from any further indulgencies in this line, and leave it as one of the refined fancies of the age that has fully run its course?

We notice, however, that representatives from the Grand Chapters of Maine, Connecticut, and Illinois, were received and greeted as such.

It appears to be the duty of the Grand High Priest in this jurisdiction to write the Report on Correspondence, but owing to the illness of Comp. DAVIS, he was unable to perform that duty and no report appears.

The Committee on Correspondence, imbued no doubt with a just idea of the value of such reports, and desiring to provide against any future disappointments, report as follows :

That in their opinion it is, in all cases of disability from whatever cause, the duty, as well as the privilege, of the presiding officer to select and designate some suitable companion to discharge that duty, so that the companions throughout our jurisdiction shall not be deprived of the pleasure and profit to be derived from such report. The Committee make no reflection upon the case herein referred to, as our M. E. G. H. P. for the past year has our deepest sympathies in his afflictions, but simply desire to guard against any future failures.

The Grand High Priest closes his Address with the following solemn and impressive words :

And now, my companions, I feel that my work is done. From my present enfeebled condition it would be improper for me to even attempt to preside over your deliberations, not even until the time shall come for you to make choice of him who is to succeed me ; and from my advanced age I can scarcely hope to regain health and vigor sufficient to justify me in attempting to take upon myself the performance of any part of the work hereafter. The work that Royal Arch Masonry has to do I feel to say is a great, a glorious work. Its sacred mission is to impress upon the human character the great lessons of civilization, cheering the afflicted wherever found, and scattering broadcast, as it were, with unsparing hand, the glorious principles of a higher moral philosophy. And, my companions, let us all most devoutly pray that the Holy One of Israel may be pleased to so order it in all things that our future success may be more glorious than the past.

There are eighty-nine Chapters in this jurisdiction, with an aggregate membership of 4332.

The M. E. ALEXANDER THOMAS was elected Grand High Priest, and the R. E. JOHN M. BRAMWELL was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address : Indianapolis.

IOWA.

The Grand Chapter of Iowa held its twentieth Annual Convocation in the city of Des Moines, commencing on the twenty-third day of October, 1873, the *M. E. E.* A. GUILBERT, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* Wm. B. LANGRIDGE being Grand Secretary.

Fifty Subordinate Chapters were represented at the opening, and all the Grand Officers save one were present, together with a number of Past Grand High Priests and other Past Grand Officers.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is a well prepared, business-like document, principally confined, however, to matters of local interest. He commences with a somewhat desponding view of the situation, as follows:

The year has gone. Its beginning shone upon many an ingleside, whose family circle was rounded and complete, prosperous and happy. Its ending finds many of those circles sadly broken, and by those inglesides sees numerous vacant chairs. To some joyous homes, commercial mutations have brought utter poverty, and others yet temptation—crime's elder brother—has irremediably disgraced. The mosaic pavement of the year has been "checkered with good and evil," and verily the black squares have predominated. War and shipwreck, and the incendiary torch, have done well that which they were commissioned to do; while yonder, even in not remote sister states, pestilence—the inscrutable decimator—has laid his pallid hand upon busy, populous cities, destroying thousands of victims, and drying the springs of commercial endeavor at their very sources.

Yet, even amid this carnival of death, the white squares have often gleamed, and again has it been the privilege of that divinest of masonic virtues, CHARITY, to exercise her office-work on behalf of stricken fraters. Her gifts have been lavishly bestowed, and not the least among them were the invigorating words of cheer with which her ministrants gladdened the solitary convalescent, from whom hope and friends had fled; or those other reverent words of prayer and faith, which they whispered in the dull ear of the dying. God grant that those benedictions sufficed to light up the "valley of the dark shadow of death," and to assist in giving the departed "abundant entrance" into the blessedness of the beyond.

Despite all these changes, these "moving incidents by flood and field," these startling perturbations in the moral world, Freemasonry has changed not. In Iowa, as also elsewhere, her stately march has been steadily onward. Not too rapidly, but markedly, has the number of neophytes increased, while "peace has been within her walls, and prosperity within her palaces." In Iowa quite a number of new, properly fitted, and handsome adorned "palaces" have been set apart for the uses of masonry, while the number of masonic refreshment occasions and saint's day commemorations have notably increased. Restful and enjoyable episodes have they been in the "bubble, bubble, toil and trouble" of the outer-life of the event-filled year. These dedication, refreshment, and commemorative episodes, to my consciousness, have seemed to be like the musical and prophetic "sound of a going in the tops of the mulberry trees," for the which the kingly David was directed to listen as an omen of substantial victory.

He reports the appointment of Representatives near the Grand Chapters of Nova Scotia, New York, Illinois, District of Columbia, Kansas, and Florida.

He strongly condemns the practice adopted by some Chapters, of having their charters framed and hung in their Chapter rooms, and presents an instance where a charter was destroyed by fire through this reprehensible custom. In order to obviate this difficulty in future, he recommended the adoption of the following "General Regulation," viz.:

The theories on which the installation ceremony is based demand that the charter of a Chapter should always be in the immediate custody of the High Priest, *therefore* it is ordered by the Grand Chapter of the State of Iowa that charters shall not be framed and left in Chapter rooms, but that the High Priest of each subordinate shall cause to be provided a suitable tin case in which to preserve the charter, and to carry it to and from the Convocations of his Chapter. Under no circumstances shall the High Priest permit the charter to leave his immediate custody, except in the event of his contemplated absence from a Convocation, when he shall place it in charge of the King, or in the event of the latter's absence, in the charge of the Scribe, who will return it to its proper custodian as soon as convenient after the aforesaid Convocation has been holden.

A question of jurisdiction having arisen with New York, which presents some phases of general interest, we state the particulars of the case as represented by the Grand High Priest:

Among the instances in which the powers vested in the Grand High Priest have been brought into positive use, I note one, as it involved a jurisdictional question of a grave character.

An Iowa man, resident for years in an interior city, removes to the State of New York. In a lodge, seated on the banks of the Hudson river, he is made a Mason. Soon thereafter he applies to the Chapter and is rejected. Twice he repeats the application, and as often is rejected. After a few months have passed he returns to his former home in Iowa, ostensibly to remain, but does not demit from the New York lodge. He had grown from boyhood to manhood in the Iowa city, and was generally and favorably known to its Masons. Shortly after his return he consults the High Priest of the Chapter with reference to taking the degrees, frankly stating that he had been rejected in the New York Chapter. The High Priest, who is most competent and intelligent, examined the Grand Chapter statutes, but found them to be utterly silent on this important jurisdictional question. Therefore, deeming his right to do so unquestionable, he received the brother's petition, regarding him to be one who would prove to be a decided acquisition to its membership. The Chapter, coinciding with the High Priest, in due season elected the brother and conferred on him the degrees. Not long after his exaltation the companion again changed his residence, returning to the Hudson river city aforesaid. He there made himself known as a Royal Arch Mason, whereupon the New York Chapter justly feeling aggrieved, the High Priest thereof wrote our High Priest, asking if the companion had actually been exalted in the Iowa Chapter, and if so, why our subordinate had thus invaded *their* jurisdictional rights?

To this letter our High Priest promptly and courteously responded, acknowledging the fact, and explaining the wherefore by saying that the party was eminently worthy, and that as our Grand Chapter was silent on the points involved, and especially as older Masons in his Chapter had sanctioned his view of the matter, he thought he had undoubted right to the material of the New York Chapter, and accordingly had used it. Not deeming this answer satisfactory, a statement of the case, embracing the correspondence, was laid before the accomplished Thos. C. Cassidy, Grand High Priest of Royal Arch Masons in New York, and his interference invoked. That official immediately wrote me, enclosing the papers in the case, making formal complaint against our Chapter and asking at my hands "that redress and masonic justice so justly due under the circumstances." At once I addressed our High Priest summarizing the facts, which were fully set forth in the documents submitted to me, and concluding with this edict, which is founded upon my well-conceived opinion that Chapter jurisdiction in *any* case, and, therefore, more especially in a case like that in question, *follows a rejected brother wherever he may go*. My edict was worded thus:—

"I enjoin it upon you, companion ——— High Priest, of ——— Chapter, No. ——— that you convene your Chapter within three days after the receipt hereof; then to read this edict and thereafter to cause the same to be spread upon your records. You will then cause to be presented, passed, and recorded a resolution addressed to ——— Chapter, No. ——— New York, disclaiming doing them intentional wrong in this matter, asking pardon for the offense, expressing a willingness to pay over to that Chapter the moneys wrongfully received for the degrees conferred on the party in dispute, and tendering that Chapter the masonic control of the companion thus improperly exalted. You will at once send me a transcript, under the seal of the Chapter, of the proceedings had at the special convocation aforesaid, and will forward the specified resolution to ——— Chapter, No. ——— New York. Herein fail not."

Promptly and cheerfully was this edict obeyed, very much to the credit of our live Chapter, and greatly to my gratification. The result was that the New York Chapter, not willing to be outdone in magnanimity, accepted the *amende honorable*, declined to receive the fee, and refused to assume masonic control over the party, who remains, though still a resident of New York, a member of the Iowa Chapter.

As succinctly as it was possible for me to do, I have stated this case, and I submit that our Grand Chapter owes it to itself to place among its general regulations an article which shall unequivocally affirm this principle of masonic law and comity, viz.:

That Chapter jurisdiction is not limited by a rejected candidate's change of residence, but that it follows him wherever he may sojourn. That in order fully to secure obedience to this rule, applicants for degrees shall be required to state in their petitions whether or not, at any time before, they have been rejected by a Chapter, and, if so, requiring them further to give the name and locality of the rejecting Chapter, so that its permission may be sought as condition precedent to action on said petition.

8th Query. "If a companion, after exaltation, refuses to sign the by-laws, what shall we do with him?"

Answer. Proceed against him for contumacy, preferring charges and trying him regularly; and then, if the contumacy is not atoned for by the performance of the act which ratifies membership, let the punishment be swift and adequate—suspension or expulsion—no less.

The following resolution was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence :

WHEREAS, It has come to the knowledge of this Grand Chapter that Comp. E. L. GRUBB, Grand Scribe and *M. E.* High Priest of Montgomery Chapter, No. 57, admitted to a Lodge of Past Master Masons a brother who had never taken any of the Chapter degrees, because he had taken the degrees of the Scottish Rite. Therefore—

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Grand Chapter that Companion GRUBB should be, and he hereby is, censured therefor.

The committee report as follows :

As to the report that Companion E. L. GRUBB, Grand Scribe, also High Priest of *Montgomery* Chapter, No. 57, had admitted into a Past Master's Lodge a Blue Lodge member and a Scottish Rite Mason who had not taken any degrees in Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Chapter, your committee would beg leave to report that in consequence of the short time given them they have not been able to hear any evidence on the subject. They further report that a Convocation of Past Masters belongs exclusively to the Grand Lodge jurisdiction; that the degree of Past Master, conferred by a Convocation of Past Masters, does not qualify one to be admitted to a Lodge of Past Masters. The Grand Chapter knows nothing about the degrees of Scottish Rite Masonry. If any Grand Officer or officer of a Chapter admit such persons into any of the lodges of the Chapter, they are unworthy to wear a jewel.

The Grand Chapter exhibited that charity which "suffereth long and is kind," by voting the sum of fifty dollars annually to the widow of a Past Grand King, during her lifetime.

Well and nobly done; would we were called upon more frequently to record such acts.

The High Priest of a Chapter under dispensation was suspended from his office for the crime of intemperance, and the Chapter was directed to proceed to try him for the offense at the earliest possible moment.

We trust that, in view of the righteous war at present being inaugurated against the dispensers of "liquid damnation," cases of this kind will become less frequent, and the Order be relieved from the stigma and disgrace cast upon it by those who cannot restrain their appetites, but who, in their daily lives, exhibit the fact that the beneficent teachings of Masonry have been to them as seed sown upon stony ground, and its great principles abortive and ineffectual in "circumscribing their desires and keeping their passions within due bounds."

We are in fault in this, that, while we teach in our Lodge-rooms the importance of temperance, in many instances, we place temptation in the way of those we have attempted to instruct. Let those who, by the suffrages of their brethren, have been set apart as leaders and teachers in Masonry, in their own persons set the example of that temperance and sobriety they so solemnly enjoin upon others. Let the source and foundation of all the trouble be banished from our Lodge-rooms, our Chapter Halls, and from the asylums of our Commanderies. When at night, these Bodies have completed their labors, let the officers and members seek their homes, and avoid as they would a pestilence the saloons and drinking houses, and the effect of such a course will soon be made manifest in the improved moral *status* of the Craft and its influence will not be unfelt upon society at large.

The Report on Correspondence is again from the pen of Comp. U. D. TAYLOR, who reviews the transactions of thirty Grand Chapters; also those of the Grand Mark Lodge of England. In reading his notice of California we were utterly surprised and grieved. In his last year's report, Comp. TAYLOR treated us to a considerable amount of pleasantry and jocose comment upon our report of the previous year, giving us however a most flattering notice. In our last year's report, we retorted in

kind, but upon again perusing our notice of Iowa, we fail to discover aught that could by any possibility be construed into a sneer, a discourtesy, or an intent to wound the feelings of any one. Comp. TAYLOR accuses us of discourtesy to the Grand High Priest of Iowa; nothing could have been further from our intent and purpose. We have not the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with Comp. GUILBERT, but we know him by his writings, and by reputation, and we, in common with his companions of Iowa, hold him in the highest respect and esteem as one who has labored long and faithfully in all the departments of Masonry, and we cannot believe that Comp. GUILBERT himself considers what was intended simply as a little piece of pleasantry, as a discourtesy.

Comp. TAYLOR quotes the following from our report of last year:

"Is the *work* of Royal Arch Masonry allowed to be written in Iowa, and that too under the direction and by the authority of the Grand High Priest? If we mistake not, the Past Grand High Priest of another jurisdiction was not long since expelled for a similar act, notwithstanding he was a *Czar*, and a member of the illustrious house of *Jones*. But perhaps we have misunderstood the purport of the paragraph, and we reserve our comments until further advised."

Upon which he makes the following remarks:

In reply: In common with other States, a copy of the standard works in full is committed to the care of the Grand High Priest, and is by him transmitted to his successor with the seal and other effects peculiar to the office. We here regard it as of importance to have such a copy in the possession of him who is the conservator of the work in this jurisdiction, and have no doubt but that even in the vastly enlightened and remarkably pure Masonry of California similar works might be found, even in unauthorized hands, on "strict examination." Companion WIGGIN is at fault, singular as it may seem, in his allusion to CZAR JONES, of Michigan. *That* party was expelled, not for writing the work, but for copying a work extant in Michigan, with the avowed and *advertised* intention of selling the same to any one in any State who claimed to be a Royal Arch Mason. The Grand Lodge of Michigan has such a standard copy of its work in its archives, and no doubt the Grand Chapter has also. Those bodies have not thought it necessary to apologise therefor when intermeddlers have cavilled thereat, nor do we. While we regret most poignantly that our course does not please companion WIGGIN, it is altogether probable that we shall *keep* and *se* the book in question.

The "sneer" and sarcasm contained in the above we pass by unnoticed, as entirely unworthy of a companion of so much intelligence and ability. In our ignorance, we were not aware that the work of Royal Arch Masonry was allowed to be written by authority in any jurisdiction, and we are not alone in our ignorance, for we notice that several of our correspondents have made similar inquiries. We simply asked for information, and we fail to see anything discourteous in our query.

With reference to the practice of keeping the written work of Masonry in the archives of Lodge or Chapter, we do not hesitate to say that, in our opinion, it is unmasonic and improper, and we cannot understand how any Mason can reconcile such a course with his obligations and duties to the order.

Comp. TAYLOR finds fault with us because we could not agree with all the decisions of Comp. GUILBERT, and upon this point he again waxes sarcastic. He says:

Coming now to the decisions of the Grand High Priest, companion WIGGIN discusses them *seriatim*, dissenting from part and approving part of them. It is his misfortune, and not his fault, that he cannot fully agree with our Grand High Priest. No doubt each party will remain fully convinced of the justice of his own conclusions, and so *that* difference can be considered settled.

We regret that we cannot always fully agree with the decisions of those who are placed in authority over the Craft, as Comp. TAYLOR says it is our "misfortune and not our fault;" but it would be a singularly dull and tame world if we all thought alike, and then what would be the use of writing Reports on Correspondence? In our opinion the object of such reports is, to learn the ideas and opinions of others, to discuss differences of opinion which may arise, and to receive and impart information.

In considering the transactions of our sister Grand Chapters and in commenting upon the decisions of the various Grand High Priests, we have endeavored to keep

courtesy, candor and fairness on our side, and, when we have been obliged to differ with our contemporaries upon any question, we have done so from an honest conviction that we were right according to the limited amount of Masonic knowledge and experience we have been enabled to acquire, always holding ourself in readiness to be convinced, if in error, by the arguments of others better informed.

We regret that Comp. TAYLOR could not have discussed the questions at issue, with that moderation and good feeling which should ever characterize controversies of this nature, and we also regret that he is no longer chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, for we cherish no ill feeling against him for what he has said of us, and in view of his general geniality and good humor, we can only attribute the acerbity of temper exhibited towards us in the report under review, to the supposition that, previous to writing it, he must have partaken of something which disagreed with him.*

We sincerely regret that any necessity should have arisen for the introduction of such a report as the following from a Special Committee:

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of the State of Iowa:—

Your special committee, to whom were referred the reports of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the years 1872 and 1873, respectfully report that we have examined said reports with care, and that we find in them many things that we cannot approve, and not a few, especially in that for the year 1872, which we can but condemn.

Your committee see with regret that in both the said reports our companion, whose ability marked him as worthy the honorable position of Committee on Foreign Correspondence, has allowed a natural and laudable desire to make his report readable to seduce him into the occasional use of language as unworthy of his talent and scholarly attainments, as of the dignity of the Grand Chapter.

Your committee are especially pained to find in report of 1872, several expressions which are apparently intended as aspersions upon the motives and honor of a companion in this Grand Chapter, whom the Masons of Iowa and elsewhere delight to honor, and whose whole life sheds lustre upon the "Royal Craft."

Your committee take pleasure in calling the attention of the Grand Chapter to the closing paragraph of the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for 1873, and the truly manly and masonic spirit therein manifested constrains us to believe that the companion will gladly concur in the following resolutions, the adoption of which we recommend:

Resolved, That we emphatically disapprove of any and all expressions of our Committee on Foreign Correspondence, published in the report of said committee, in disparagement of the character and motives of a companion and member of this Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That in future no Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence shall be published until the same shall have been read and approved in open Grand Chapter, or by a committee of at least three companions appointed for that purpose.

The M.: E.: ROBERT F. BOWER was elected Grand High Priest, and the R.: E.: WILLIAM B. LANSBURY was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address: Muscatine.

KANSAS.

The ninth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Kansas was held in the city of Lawrence, on the fourteenth day of October, 1873—the M.: E.: EDWIN D. HILLYER, Grand High Priest, presiding, the R.: E.: JOHN H. BROWN being Grand Secretary *pro tem*. The number of *pro tems* among the Grand Officers at the opening of the Grand Chapter, strikes us as somewhat remarkable—nine out of the fifteen occupying that position. The Grand High Priest appointed a Committee on Credentials—probably to ascertain who were not there—and called off until afternoon; when, upon re-assembling, the *pro tems* had decreased to five, and the Committee on Credentials reported the representatives of seventeen chartered Chapters present.

The Grand High Priest delivered an interesting and scholarly address, from which we extract the following as a specimen brick:

*We have received a letter of explanation from Comp. TAYLOR which is perfectly satisfactory, and we regret that it did not come to hand before our report was in print, as we should then have made no allusion to the subject.

Masonic virtue is practical, not formal; it welcomes as its assistants whatever extends the power and promotes the happiness of humanity. If it does not direct our conduct and inspire our lives, we are false to our obligations, and hypocrites in the sanctuary; to be real it must not only manifest itself in words, it must also inspire the heart.

Superstition insists that morality and virtue are inseparable from dogmatic faith; but this association of dogma and zeal invariably culminates in such scenes as were presented in the Crusades, the massacre of St Bartholomew, and the martyrdom of Micaud Servetus.

Masonry, on the contrary, recognizes and honors virtue wherever found, and knowledge by whomsoever taught. The golden rule of Confucius, the sublime devotion to Mahommed, and the all-pervading "Peace on earth and good will to man" of the Christian revelation, each contribute their quota to the enlightenment and civilization of the race.

Greek literature and art contributed largely to redeem Europe from the barbarism of the "Middle Ages," and Saracen science is the foundation upon which the scientific structure of to-day was erected; no creed nor race, can claim the sole credit of the proud civilization of the nineteenth century; to assert the contrary is ignorance and illiberality.

The spirit which prompted the inquiry: "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth," should be deprecated by Royal Arch Masons.

I am aware that these opinions are calculated to offend prejudices and provoke unamiable criticism; that they are different from the usual orthodox sentiments and conventional phraseology of Annual Masonic Addresses. But these opinions are held and advocated by the leading minds of the day, men who are pioneers on the pathway of knowledge; and will command public attention and popular recognition for their importance, despite contemptuous indifference or angry denunciation. Royal Arch Masons, therefore, must wrestle boldly with this angel of progress. The contest cannot be avoided, and the result will be either a blessing or a bane to the Order.

He had issued four dispensations to form new Chapters, which he states had all been instituted, and were working prosperously. His views with reference to special dispensations are eminently sound. He says:

I issued but few dispensations under the resolution of the Grand Chapter concerning substitutes. I am emphatically of the opinion that the power to grant a dispensation permitting any Masonic act which the written or unwritten laws of Masonry otherwise forbid, should be used with caution. It is an extraordinary power, and should be exercised only upon extraordinary occasions, and invariably when the good of the Order required the indulgence, and not individual convenience.

At the last Annual Convocation the question of recognition of the Grand Chapter of West Virginia was referred to a special committee, who reported as follows:

Your special committee, appointed at the last Annual Convocation to take into consideration the question of recognizing the Grand Chapter of West Virginia, respectfully report that we have carefully considered the subject in all its bearings, and, while we would not willingly do anything which would in the least tend to sever the friendly relations which should everywhere exist among the Royal Craft, we are in this case compelled, by the respect we owe the General Grand Chapter, to dissent from the views expressed by our esteemed companions of West Virginia in the organization of a Grand Chapter. In their present attitude we can not consistently welcome them into the great family of Grand Chapters. We therefore offer the following:

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter hail with pleasure the apparent increasing prosperity of Royal Arch Masonry in West Virginia, and that we will most cordially extend to their newly organized Grand Chapter a hearty welcome among the family of Grand Chapters, whenever they shall place themselves under the fostering care of the General Grand Chapter, or whenever they shall have been duly recognized by that Grand Body.

This gave rise to considerable discussion, when, after the suggestion of sundry amendments, the following was offered and adopted:

Resolved, That we will not recognize the Grand Chapter of West Virginia, because it refuses to acknowledge the authority of the General Grand Chapter.

The comparison between these resolutions causes our facial muscles to relax. The difference in the mode of expression between the two reminds us of Biddy's appeal to her lover, who, on one occasion, had extended his evening visit beyond what she deemed to be the bounds of propriety; the poor girl, fearing every moment

the appearance of an irate mother, said to the enamored swain, "Sure it's late, Barney, darlin, plaze lave me alone;" when sure enough, the old woman put in an appearance and somewhat energetically *whispered*, "Barney, ye divil, git out o' my house." Now there was really no difference in the meaning of the two expressions. Biddy wanted Barney to go, so did the old woman; but one expressed herself in tender and affectionate language, the other—well, the other didn't.

So with these resolutions; they are identical in meaning, yet the first is clothed in temperate, courteous and fraternal language; while the other is slightly suggestive of the old woman.

Now we may lay ourself open to the charge of ignorance; but, we did not know that the Grand Chapter of West Virginia had *refused* to acknowledge the authority of the General Grand Chapter. We knew that they had been advised to do so; but we were not aware that they had taken any definite action in the premises. We have received no proceedings from there since those which heralded their organization, and we have not noticed, in the proceedings of our sister jurisdictions, any mention of such action on their part, until we took up those of Kansas. When we know more of the matter we shall probably feel competent to speak upon it, but with the lights before us we prefer to say no more at present.

Upon the question of substitutes, the following action was taken:

WHEREAS, The General Grand Chapter of the United States at its last Triennial Convocation, held in the city of Baltimore, after a full and thorough discussion of the subject matter, adopted the following resolutions by an almost unanimous vote, viz.:

"*Resolved*, That this General Grand Chapter decides that the use of substitutes is not a violation of the Ritual of Royal Arch Masonry, or the Installation Charges delivered to a High Priest, and that substitutes may be authorized by Grand Chapters working under this jurisdiction.

"*Resolved*, That while such is the interpretation of the Ritual and Installation Charges by this Grand Body, Chapters are fraternally and earnestly urged to use full classes of actual candidates, except in cases of emergency, for the best interests of Royal Arch Masonry;" Therefore:

Resolved, That the Standing Regulations adopted by this Grand Chapter in 1869 and in 1872, on the subject of substitutes, be and are hereby repealed.

Resolved, That the use of substitutes is hereby authorized by this Grand Chapter; at the same time the Chapters are fraternally and earnestly urged to use full classes of actual candidates except in cases of emergency, for the best interests of Royal Arch Masonry.

The Report on Correspondence is again from the ready pen of the Grand Secretary, Comp. E. T. CARR. Thirty-one Chapters pass the ordeal of his criticism, and California for 1873 is courteously noticed. Comp. CARR says: "The question of West Virginia was not raised, although the Committee on Correspondence report in favor of recognizing them." The simple fact is, that the question was not raised, because the Grand Secretary, with the multiplicity of business upon his hands caused by the assembling of three Grand Bodies in one week, all of which claim his attention as Recording officer, forgot all about it, and the matter escaped the attention of other companions.

With reference to our notice of Kansas last year, he says: "Our Report is complimented as able, &c; but we would like to hear from the companions on one or two points in it, say West Virginia for one. Here I think we would disagree." Possibly: the companion jumps at a conclusion, but we think it very probable that we might disagree upon this point.

We have not the Proceedings of Kansas for 1872 before us as we write, and we are therefore unable to refer to the remarks of Comp. CARR on the subject of West Virginia in his report of that year; but, until we are cognizant of some act on the part of that Grand Chapter, disavowing allegiance to the General Grand Chapter, we are not going to take up the cudgels against them. We took occasion, in our report of last year, to deprecate the remarks made by the Grand High Priest of Vir-

ginia, and to express the hope that the new Grand Chapter would disregard them. The fact that they were advised to steer clear of the General Grand Chapter, does not prove that they will do so; and, as to the best of our knowledge, they have taken no action, and the General Grand Chapter has not been in session since their organization, how do we know that they intend to refuse allegiance to that august Body?

With reference to their assumption of jurisdiction over the Council degrees, none will object more strongly to such action than ourself; but we do not consider that a sufficient reason for refusing them recognition. The Royal and Select Masters made by them would not be recognized in California, probably not in Kansas, and we think if the different Grand Councils will assert their rights, and refuse recognition to any Royal and Select Master not made in a legally constituted Council, this evil will soon work itself out.

Comp. CARR writes an interesting and instructive report, and there are many things in it we would like to notice, but there must be an end to everything, even to Reports on Correspondence. We will notice but one thing more before bidding good-night to Kansas.

In his notice of New Jersey, Comp. CARR says: "The Report on Correspondence was prepared by Comp. THOMAS J. CARSON," &c.

We are inclined to the belief that Comp. CARR will "catch it" for that; CARSON and CORSON are two very different individuals; CARSON believes in one-legged Masonry, while CORSON insists on going the entire swine. Not long since CORSON set his machine to work and ground out a very elaborate poem on CARSON and his cripples; perhaps Comp. CARR may remember it. CORSON is tender on that point; don't call him CARSON, or his back goes up like a male feline at bay.

There are twenty-five Chapters in this jurisdiction, with an aggregate membership of 925. The *M. E.* JOHN M. PRICE was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* ERASMUS T. CARR was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address: Leavenworth.

KENTUCKY.

The pamphlet containing the transactions of this Grand Chapter is a handsome one of some two hundred pages, prefaced by a fine engraving of the Widows' and Orphans' Home at Louisville, as it will appear when completed. The structure as projected is an imposing one, and does credit to the heads and hearts of those who devised it. Let us hope that the cap-stone may soon be laid, that the widow and fatherless may avail themselves of the practical benefits of so noble a charity.

The fifty-eighth Annual Convocation was held in the city of Louisville, commencing on the twentieth day of October, 1873,—the *M. E.* WILLIAM RYAN, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* J. M. S. McCORKLE being Grand Secretary. Five Past Grand High Priests honored the Convocation with their presence, and Representatives from eighty-two chartered Chapters, and one under dispensation, were present at the opening.

The Grand High Priest in his address says:

The past twelve months, whilst not distinguished by any very signal advance of Royal Arch Masonry in our midst, have, in a great measure, been a period not of retrogression, but of steady and healthful growth in our companionship, and we can not be too grateful to Him, to whom every Mason looks as the source of all things for the manifold mercies He has vouchsafed to us, and for permitting us to again assemble here in this Grand Body, as the representatives of our beloved Fraternity.

He states that he had visited but few of the subordinate Chapters, though urgently invited by some to visit them, and for cause sheweth that, in consequence of a lack of uniformity in the work, it would be extremely unsatisfactory to him to do so. He urgently calls upon the Grand Chapter to remedy this evil, and very justly says that such a state of things should exist no longer. Only one dispensation was granted or applied for, during his term of office, and that was to organize a new Chapter. This for a jurisdiction having upon its registry one hundred and five Chap-

ters, and three thousand eight hundred and eighty-five Royal Arch Masons, is something wonderful. Usually the addresses of Grand High Priests are burdened with the recital of special dispensations, issued for every imaginable purpose. We shall be glad when the day of special dispensations has passed into history. He presented his credentials as Representative of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, and recommends the Grand Chapter to recognize the system and authorize the Grand High Priest to appoint representatives near other Grand Chapters. This portion of the address was referred to a committee of three, but we cannot find that they made any report upon the subject.

The Report on Correspondence is again from the pen of Comp. H. A. M. HENDERSON, and is a paper which well repays the perusal. We took up Kentucky at a late hour, when, weary with toil, we had laid aside the pen and sought to recuperate our flagging energies by the stimulating influences of a fragrant Havana, and thought we would just glance at the Report on Correspondence previous to retiring. We commenced reading; we finished our cigar and lighted another; we kept on reading until we had finished the report, when the beams of the rising sun, paling the gaslight, reminded us that a few hour's sleep would be in order before commencing the active duties of the day. Comp. HENDERSON wields a trenchant, yet courteous pen. His report fairly sparkles with wit and humor, and he does not hesitate to speak right out in meeting, and frankly expresses his views upon all questions affecting the interests of the Royal Craft. He reviews carefully and thoroughly the transactions of twenty-six Grand Chapters, and California for 1873 receives an extended and most courteous notice at his hands. He quotes largely from our report of that year, and appears to agree with us fully in the views therein expressed. His views with reference to the distinction between Masonry and Religion are so thoroughly sound that we give them entire. He quotes the following from our notice of Kansas:

"If Comp. HILLYER, in claiming for Masonry the honor of having done more to make men wise and good, than any other institution, means simple secular institutions, we are prepared to agree with him; if, however, he means to place Masonry above the divine institution of the church, we take issue with him at once; and we do not hesitate to say that those who, in their blind zeal enunciate such doctrines, work far greater mischief to Masonry than they can ever hope to repair."

Upon which he comments as follows:

We thoroughly agree with Comp. WIGGIN. Masonry is suffering from nothing more, this day, than the intemperate ardor of its inconsiderate advocates. The Church of God is an institution too holy to be brought into comparison with anything clearly earth-born. Whatever there is good in Masonry has for its progenitor the Church of God. All our moral principles are, professedly, based upon the Divine oracles. We ask no higher honor than to be greeted with the approving smile of God's Church, and a seat upon her footstool.

There are a class of Christians who affirm that every organized effort for the promotion of benevolence should be included within the corporate limits of the Church, and that therefore, all societies are not only useless, but are guilty of usurping the prerogatives of the Church. There are, on the other hand, a certain class of Masons, who allege that Masonry is adequate to meet all the demands of man's religious nature, to institute harmony between the soul and its God, and to establish the conditions of immortal salvation. Now we unhesitatingly enter our protest against the views of both. Being at once a member of the Christian Church and of the Masonic institution, being ardently attached to each, in their relative importance to human life and destiny, we think we are in a position to estimate without partiality the real worth of each, and to find the happy mean between the two extreme views we have epitomized. What is the Church? "The visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men and women in which the pure word of God is preached, and the sacraments duly administered, according to Christ's ordinance, in all things that of necessity are requisite to the same." The invisible Church may be defined to be constituted of all those who are vitally united in Christ, as members of the body to the head. Taken in either view, it is a society bound to observe the laws of Christ. It is a fundamental duty that all who believe in Christ should be initiated into his Church by baptism, and that all those thus inducted into the society should frequently partake of the Lord's Supper, to the end of testifying continued fealty to Jesus Christ, and faith in that great and distinguishing doctrine of his religion, the redemption of

the world by the sacrificial effusion of his blood, both of which assume union with his Church. The Church is of Divine origin. It proposes to save men from their depravity by giving them a new heart, to rob death of its sting by taking away sin, and to imparadize souls in Heaven by making them "meet for an inheritance with the saints in light."

Now, *What is Masonry?* It is a system of moral truth preserved in and expressed by symbols and allegorical representations. It claims no Divine institution; its highest claim to antiquity rests upon a Trade Union of the Craftsmen engaged in the erection of King Solomon's Temple. It proposes only to make better men for the life that now is, by inculcating the temporal moralities. It has no sacrifice upon its altars—either Jewish or Christian.

It has no atonement for sin:

"No bleeding bird, nor bleeding beast,
Nor hyssop branch, nor sprinkling priest,"

—nor has it Jesus and him crucified.

If any system of morality could save a man, then the gift of God's only begotten and dearly beloved Son to die for human salvation was a work of supererogation upon the part of God, and a cruelty as unpardonable as it was unnecessary. The Sinaitic revelation of the law was all that was required if a practice of those moralities—whose theatre of activity and of reward is time—is all that God requires of man. If the view is correct that salvation hinges on faith in Christ, can any enlightened Mason claim that our Order is a saving institution? It requires an absolute repudiation of belief in Jesus Christ for any one to say so. The New Testament says: "There is no other name given under heaven, among men," whereby we can be saved than the name of Jesus Christ. It says: "If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ let him be anathema, maranatha;" i. e. —*let him be accursed.*

Who so profane then as to say that the name of Solomon, or Hiram, or the Saints John has any healing power? Or that the practice of the Masonic virtues alone will substitute faith in the world's Redeemer, and secure Heaven by another plan than that devised by Infinite Wisdom? The Master himself said: "He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep."

Immense damage is done to Masonry by its Craftsmen claiming too much for its principles. Indiscreet Masons have been the cause of that wide-spread and growing opposition in some branches of the Christian church to our order. They have claimed and frequently repeated in an oracular manner, "that if a man would live up to Masonry he would be saved;" they have exhibited a fanatical preference for the Lodge room by turning aside from religious services to attend the former. A Church member cannot inflict a great damage on Masonry than on the night of his prayer meeting, or while public services are being held in his church, to turn aside from these things, having the highest claim upon his attention, to go to a Lodge meeting, having a lower claim upon his attendance. Eagle-eyed church members (not Masons) say: "Brother A. B. prefers his Lodge to his church." They, therefore, having the view that the church should command the first and most fervid zeal of men, become prejudiced against Masonry. Other church members who are Masons, but who believe that when the necessity for discrimination arises between Masonry and the church, that the judgment and the conduct should always be governed by the superior claims of the latter, seeing the effect upon Brother A. B., conclude that there is a tendency in the Order to draw men off from religion, and they dimit and become lukeworm. Thus Masonry is damaged in the eyes of two classes of men, whose good opinions might be conserved by a consistent devotion of Masons to the church, and a constant recognition of its superiority over Freemasonry. Suppose the Craftsmen who built King Solomon's Temple should have been so elated with the grandeur of the structure they had erected, as to claim that they too had piled up the Masonry of the Everlasting Hills, and arched the dome of the skies, frescoed it with cerulean hues and fretted it with stars; would not the disgust they would excite by such a preposterous claim have detracted from the admiration which the world was willing to give them for their real work? So let a Mason who belongs to a society originated in time, by human wisdom, having only temporal moralities in its code, reaping only temporal rewards, claim that this system is constructively the same as that born in the councils of eternity, of the wisdom of a triune God, having relation to everything in time and eternity, and the assumption will be so absurd as to undermine confidence in that which, in its proper place, would readily have been regarded favorably and possibly embraced.

But the class of church members referred to, in the beginning of this criticism, are also at fault. While religion is a circle that includes the smaller circle of morality, morality, as such, is a circle that can be drawn outside of it. To state it in other terms, there may be morality without religion, there can be no religion without morality. Now, it is desirable to make men moral and fraternal. And this statement

does not abate the larger desirableness of making men religious. We suppose that it will be granted that it is possible to keep the decalogue without even believing in the Divine authority of the Christian religion. To say otherwise is to deny to the Jew, to whom the tables of stone were originally delivered, the possibility of complying with the moral requirements upon *them* of the divine Lawgiver. Moral societies may then be formed, and perform a most useful office to society in general. Christians, by entering into these societies, do not abridge their religion, but only extend their moral relations for the benefit of other men. The Church requires temperance in its members, and certainly it cannot object to men entering into organizations for the purpose of affording encouragement and countenance to men struggling to reclaim themselves from intemperance. The Church visits the widows and orphans in their affliction, and surely it cannot object to organizations formed, without its pale, to perform the same beneficent offices. And so we might refer to all the relations which we sustain to moralities and benefactions that concern the amelioration of human misfortune, and the improvement of men in the practical virtues of the present life. The State endows charities and taxes all her people, Christian and Infidel, to sustain her eleemosynary institutions. Will Christians object because the State is something separate from the Church?

Would it not be much better for the Church, instead of building a wall, to exist out in the open air and foster into blossom every flower of the moral field? Many a man has taken his first step toward religion by joining some moral society. The drunkard reclaimed from his cups, through the agency of the Good Templars, is made to feel a returning manhood and his attention is directed thereby to the Church. He has been made a man in time; he will make himself a saint in eternity. A man becomes a Mason; he is taught morality at every step of his progress; he reforms his vices; he feels the charms of fraternity and the luxury of doing good. Is he less apt to become a Christian by being thus brought nearer to the Church, than if left isolated in his relations to his fellows, bound by no self-assumed obligations, and centered only in his own insular egotism? We trow not. St. Paul himself belonged to some organization, outside of the Church, Acts xviii—18, "having shorn his head in Cenchrea: for he had a vow."

The Church has societies outside of its literal constitution—such as Sabbath schools, tract and missionary societies. Persons may and do belong to any one of them, who make no profession of religion, and who are not members of the Church.

We conceive then that the proper position for the Church member to assume is, that it is the duty of every Christian to foster every institution that has for its end the improvement of men in morality, the union of men in brotherhoods, and the amelioration of human ills; that the proper position for the Mason is to recognize the Church as a higher and holier organization than Masonry, and to seek to make the order the handmaid of religion, and the vestibule of the Church.

In his notice of Kansas we find the following grains of gold.

The fact that strength is not to be reckoned by number is insisted on. We endorse heartily all the companion says on the subject and append our own views.

A large, undisciplined army sometimes establishes the conditions of certain defeat, when a smaller one, composed of trained and obedient soldiers, would have wrested triumph from the foe. Solid character, and not serried battalions, constitute Masonic power. Numbers loosely gathered may enrich the treasury, but they impoverish the Chapter in the estimation of the good.

Twelve enlightened Masons, illustrating the principles of the Fraternity in their daily walk and conversation, set forth a finer exhibition of Masonry than one hundred could do, among whom there were but a dozen, who, if the Lodge or Chapter were winnowed of its chaff, would be found to be sound, golden grain.

Masonic veterans are those who have often been tried and who have never disappointed the expectations of those who entered into trial with them.

Masonry is not a *universal* brotherhood; that is, it is not designed for every man. There must be fitness for Masonic honor. Masonry seeks to produce the *conditions* which will finally produce a universal brotherhood, but in order to obtain this ultimate end it must be scrupulously guarded against the introduction of unworthy members and indolent workmen.

Drones may have their office in a hive, by providing the conditions for cultivating charity and benevolence among the busy bees, and this is the only possible end that a lazy and ignorant man can serve in the active work-shop of Freemasonry.

We freely admit that there are bad men in, but this is only a reason why we should seek to get such *out*, and to prevent others from *getting in* to desecrate our tessellated carpet with their unhallowed feet.

No one will contend that JUDAS was an ornament to the Apostolic College, or ARNOLD a grace to the staff of the American Army. We suppose that the sun would shine brighter if it were not for the spots upon its disc.

All good things have their spots, but this don't prove that spots are desirable things.

A little diamond, clear to its centre, and its points all shining with distinguishable light, is more valuable than a big diamond flawed and flameless.

Let us have ten upright Masons, even though we have to *bear with* a denying PEREK and a betraying JUDAS. Don't let us fill up with Judases who will betray us in the hour of our need.

Because the sun of Masonry has its opaque spots, do not let us deliberately take a pot of lamp-black and make others.

Our Order has passed through its fiery trials, but they were kindled from without and not within.

Those fires were refining and served to remove the dross from the fine gold. It is not persecution, but the more imminent danger of prosperity we have to fear.

Everywhere there is a revival of interest in our Institution. Our tables are covered with applications. We are liable to be misled or to be lax in our scrutiny of those who seek admission. We are open to imposition not so much from cowan and eavesdroppers as from the introduction of unworthy members.

Let us not be deluded into the fearful mistake of estimating our prosperity by the multitude who may desire to join us. Let us seek to correct the errors of those already within the sanctuary, and to subjugate ourselves thoroughly to the sway of the noble principles of Brotherly Love, Faith, Hope, Charity, Fortitude, Patience, Truth and Relief. Thus, like loadstones, our Lodges and Chapters will attract to their bosom all who are worthy of a place in the lofty line of Ancient Masonry.

Again, we say, *see that* the doors are tyled.

In his notice of Massachusetts, he "goes for" a brother clergyman, Comp. DADMUN, in the following pleasant style :

Companion DADMUN presents a Report on Foreign Correspondence which does no discredit to the literary reputation of the "Hub." He expresses an ardent hope that Kentucky will reunite with the General Grand Chapter. In this we can say to the companion we are "a union man."

The following question we are happy to be able to answer in the affirmative: "Companion HENDERSON, were you ever in good old New England, the land of the Pilgrims?" Yes; we went to school up there three years, and havn't got over our love for brown bread, codfish and potatoes, baked beans, and broiled halibut yet, though such habits are not admired by our fellow Kentuckians. It was at the Revere House where a Kentuckian unwittingly broke open a fish ball and exclaimed with supreme disgust, "there's something dead in these taters." Yes, we have stood on Boston Common when it was trigged out in its holiday attire; sailed down to Nahant when the harbor was filled with excursion yachts and steamers; frowned at Fort Warren as it kept its grim watch over the sea-gate to the city; climbed those stone stairs on Bunker Hill; we have glided on the Lady of the Lake over the beautiful waters of Winnipisseogee, and taken trout in its patron brooks; we have made the ascent of Mt. Washington, and caught haddock and a bad cold at the Isle of Shoals; but a bluegrass pasture, flecked over with prancing steeds and herds of short-horns, can make a man forget New England and the Pil-grim fathers.

You talk about your water power! Why we have got at the Falls of the Ohio (Louisville) a hydraulic force that, if utilized and applied to the wheel-work of the universe, would produce such swift revolutions as would burn up the "Hub." But you Yankees can beat us putting spindles in motion; but "we are coming, Father Abraham."

Comp. HENDERSON asks if we have any relatives in Dover, New Hampshire? To this we can only answer that we don't know. We have been given to understand that the whole tribe came originally from New Hampshire, but we know of no near relatives residing there at present. We give the conclusion of Comp. HENDERSON's report as a specimen of his style, and to show that, although by profession a clergyman, he is not of those who believe that religion should render her votaries a company of sour-visaged cynics, but rather that it should make men happy, cheerful, genial and companionable:

We have now answered all the letters we have received. If others have been sent, lay the blame on the treachery of the mails, or on our Grand Secretary.

Night after night we have been poring over the pages submitted to our review, after having expended the day in exhaustive official duties. For whatever of dyspeptic humor our companions may find in our report, we hope they will set it down to our liver and not refer it to our heart. We have tried to write in a good humor and a candid judgment, but it is quite possible that some will take our best natured

things as splenetic. We have seen men that couldn't take a joke and heartily pitied their sensitiveness, and if we knew who our thin-skinned companions were, we would never throw a paper pellet at them, but reserve our wads for such pachydermata as HORNER, WIGGINS and CORSON. As for ourselves we are willing to be impaled by the Japanese jugglers that will next year throw their knives at us. For that company of vinegar cruets who cut their kittens' tails off because they play with them we have no word of apology. When we want to pickle Masonry we will send for them. We haven't been writing a letter of condolence to those bereaved, but a cheerful hurly-burly to men whose blood has not yet congealed in their veins and who are no mourners at the tomb of buried hopes.

We find a general desire expressed by the constituents of the General Grand Chapter that we should resume our relations to that Body. In many instances it amounts to an entreaty. When arguments have been presented to superinduce this action upon our part, they have seemed to us to be weighty and convincing. Where affection has uttered its wooing invitation it has been as sweet as the sound of the lute upon the waters. Viewed in no other light than as a triennial union for wider acquaintanceship and social good cheer, the proposed movement has claims upon our regards. As contributing to the unifying of diverse sections in a comity of good feeling, there is an element of patriotism in it which should not be overlooked and especially should not be despised. As the only feasible agency for the perfection of the American system—especially in securing uniformity in the Chapter work—it appeals to our sense of duty and to our pride. We are not to judge the present by the past. Old things have passed away and all things have become new. The question of expense entailed is so trifling as hardly to be worthy of dignified mention. Your committee having, at the last session, offered the resolution which proposed a resumption of our relations to the General Grand Chapter, have become more convinced than ever that the interests and affections of the Grand Chapter should alike prompt us to offer ourselves, through our representatives, for reunion at the next triennial session.

We would, also, recommend that the Grand High Priest be authorized to appoint representatives near those Grand Chapters which have honored us with similar appointments, and that the Grand Secretary send annually to such a copy of our proceedings.

To our Companion Reporters we again bid a tender farewell, promising to make the *amende honorable* to any whom we may have unwittingly offended, begging for no clemency, but baring our back to that merciless throng who, with the knout of persecution, will lash us; begging HORNER to keep sober; WIGGIN not to be so funny as to cause CORTRILL's diaphragm to usurp the place of his mouth; O'NEIL to see that his successor in Ohio leads his commentaries; CORSON to have mercy on the muses; PATTON to send us his report for 1872-3, and DADMUN to pray for us.

To one and all—North, South, East and West—of the great family of Capitular Masonry, we truthfully say:

"Our hearts, our hopes, are all with thee,
Our hearts, our hopes, our prayers, our tears,
Our Faith triumphant o'er our fears,
Are all with thee—are all with thee."

Yours, by three times three,

H. A. M. HENDERSON, *Chairman*.

The report is a refresher, an oasis in the literary desert, and we forgive him for calling us a Rhinoceros, and assure him that, as long as he does not class us with the Pachycephala, we shall find no fault; we leave him to the tender mercies of HORNER and CORSON, who will doubtless make it warm for him in their next reports.

The M. E. D. P. ROBB was elected Grand High Priest, and the R. E. JOHN M. S. McCORKLE was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address: Louisville.

LOUISIANA.

The Grand Chapter of Louisiana held its twenty-sixth Annual Convocation in the city of New Orleans, commencing on the eleventh day of February, 1873,—the M. E. MICHEL ELOI GIRARD, Grand High Priest, presiding, the R. E. J. C. BATCH-ELOR being Grand Secretary. Fourteen subordinate Chapters were represented at the opening.

The Grand High Priest, in his address, renders thanks to the Almighty Ruler for the many blessings which had been vouchsafed to the Royal Craft in that jurisdiction during the year. He says:

The sinister messenger, Death, has not, I believe, summoned any member of this Grand Chapter from the scene of his labors among us; no mournful expression of grief from friends sorrowing for the loss of their companions check the demonstrations of grateful happiness which animate us at this annual re-union; and we should, first of all, improve the occasion to lift our hearts to the Author of so much good and happiness; show our appreciation of His favors by giving Him praise for such visible marks of his presence and assistance in our labors, and implore Him that he turn not from us the light of his countenance, but continue to us His presence, protection and blessing.

He states that his official labors have not been arduous during the year, that he has not been called upon to settle many questions of jurisprudence, and has issued special dispensations, only for the purpose of holding elections after the constitutional limit. This he justly regards as an evidence of Masonic knowledge and intelligence on the part of those in authority, more general and extensive than has been usual.

Two dispensations were granted for the formation of new Chapters, and the specimens of their work were pronounced good and true, and such as the overseers were entitled to receive, and as a reward for their zeal and fidelity, charters were granted them. He compliments the Grand officers upon the faithful manner in which they have discharged their duties, and of the Grand Lecturer, he says:

Your Grand Lecturer has again performed his usual labors throughout the State, with credit to himself and much profit, I believe, to the Craft. May we not assign to these yearly visits of a Representative of the Grand Chapter, the kindling up of the flames of fervency and zeal that have brightened up the officers of the Chapters, and produced among them and their companions the noble emulation of who will best work, so unmistakably shown in the labors of the past year?

We have long been satisfied that nothing so greatly tends to create enthusiasm and healthy emulation among Masonic Bodies, of whatever grade, as frequent visits of Grand Officers. These visits show to the subordinate Bodies that the parent organization has an interest in their prosperity, and watches over their welfare with parental anxiety. The members seeing this to be the fact, are anxious to perfect themselves in the work. The visit of a Grand Officer is an epoch in their history, and each strives to do his level best to convince said official that his Lodge or Chapter, as the case may be, is the best working Body in the jurisdiction.

We are of the opinion that each subordinate Body should be visited at least once a year by one or more Grand Officers; and if the Grand High Priest, Deputy, King, or Scribe cannot perform this duty, then let the Grand Lecturer be paid a sufficient salary to enable him properly to attend to it, and the result will soon be made manifest in the increase of zeal, efficiency, and prosperity of the Craft.

With reference to the secrecy of the ballot, the Grand High Priest makes a most important suggestion, and one which, if adopted, would, we believe, be productive of great good. The suggestion is not a novel one, for the plan, we are aware, has been adopted with good results, in several jurisdictions.

As we deem this to be a matter of importance and of general interest to the Craft, we give the remarks of the Grand High Priest relative thereto in full. He says:

It is universally admitted that the secrecy of the ballot is the safest bulwark of the Masonic Order; that it is the inherent right and the duty of every Mason to exercise his privilege of the ballot whenever an opinion should be expressed by that mode, and he cannot and should not directly or indirectly be questioned about it. Yet, I believe that one of our general regulations contains a provision which sometimes militates against those vital principles, in requiring the members of Committees of Investigation on applications for Initiation or Affiliation, to make a written report of the result of their investigation.

To illustrate this, let us suppose that one of the members of the committee report unfavorably on the application referred to his committee and a black-ball is cast; the natural and irresistible inference is that he cast it, and the secrecy of that ballot is destroyed; the friends of the applicant cannot but suspect him as the one who put in that black-ball, hence may arise much bad feeling. This indeed has happened.

Suppose again that, at some future time, the applicant who had been rejected and upon whose application one of the committee had reported unfavorably, should renew his application and be this time accepted; he in due time becomes a member; he enquires about his first application, and seeing the written report of the committee, finds the unfavorable report of one them, and he cannot help suspecting very strongly that member of having black-balled him. This must give him cause to feel aggrieved. Is this not wrong and in direct violation not only of secrecy of the ballot, but of all Masonic doctrines and teachings which direct us to avoid all that may tend to produce discord or want of harmony?

Formerly, there were no Committees of Investigation, or rather the whole body was constituted the Committee of Investigation; each member was charged with the duty of making due inquiry as to the moral character and qualifications of the candidate, in order that each should vote understandingly upon the application, and no written or verbal report was required or looked for. I think it were better to return to that mode of action, which ensures an absolute certainty of preserving the secrecy of the ballot. Thus an application, when received, would stand referred to the whole Chapter for investigation, and it would be the duty of each and every member to make due inquiries and perform for himself the duties of a special Investigating Committee, as if he were the only one charged with that most important duty. Doubtless there would be at least three if not more, of the members who would consider it their duty to make due and proper inquiries, and if there was a Chapter in which there could not be found three members who would feel enough of Masonic spirit to perform that duty properly, the sooner that Chapter would cease its labors, the better it would be for the Order, for it would not be composed of such men as should constitute a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons; all know that if a Mason or a number of Masons will not do the work of the chapter cheerfully, whatever it may be, when it is specially assigned to them to do, they must look upon it as a thankless task, and we cannot expect it to be done properly and Masonically.

I believe that in many instances, the members of the Chapter rely solely upon the report of the special committee for their guide in casting their ballot; and if a committee has been remiss in the performance of their duty, and bad material is received, of course they would lay the blame solely upon this committee: but let the blame attach where it may, still the wrong has been done, and many have cast their ballots knowing nothing of him whom they were voting for, and having made no inquiry, have accepted the action and report of the committee as a finality.

Is not this special committee an invention of modern Masonry engrafted upon the Craft from a desire to cast off on a few, say three only, the important duties and delicate responsibilities of a full, complete and satisfactory inquiry into the antecedents and fitness of an applicant, and absolve from that duty, considered perhaps a task, the large number of the members who should all perform the duties and share the solidarity attached to their membership, and who, when they vote, should each act from their knowledge and upon his individual responsibility, so that the fault, when any bad material is received, may be laid where it properly belongs, to each and every member.

By abolishing the special committee, specially the written report, and referring the matter to all the members, I feel confident that there would be at least *three* out of the whole number of the members who would attend cheerfully to the duty; the work would be fully as well if not better done than it is now; we would be sure that we do not break down, or at least impair one of our most efficient rules of action in the protection of the chapter and craft against the introduction of unworthy material; and also effectually protect the member in his inherent right of not being questioned directly or indirectly about the ballot he may have cast, by avoiding all possibility of its being known, or even suspected, how any one may have voted on an application.

However, if you should be of opinion that the work is better done by a small committee, then I would suggest that you make a change in the appointment of the committee, and the mode of making their report. The names of the committee should not be announced publicly by the High Priest; but having been selected by him, each member thereof might be notified (by the H. P. or Secretary,) privately of his appointment, without his being informed even who the others are; each would report to the High Priest alone, and he would make known to the chapter the facts reported and the result of the investigation of the committee; thus, if any one of the committee should make an unfavorable report, and a black-ball was cast which might be imputed to him, none but the High Priest could entertain any suspicion as to who might have voted it. By this mode, which is in use in some of the Masonic bodies in Massachusetts and perhaps other States, the action and report of the committee as well as the ballot are as nearly secret as they can be made, whilst using the agency of a special committee to do the work that it would be more in accordance with ancient Masonic usage to have done by each and every member of the Body. I think this mode has a decided advantage from more guarded secrecy, in making the committee more free and independent in expressing the exact result

of their investigations without fear or probability of producing any bad feeling, or directing the wounded sensibilities of any of the friends of rejected candidates to any particular member of the Chapter. I think a change is needed, and any course that may tend to ensure peace and harmony, and at the same time maintain in its integrity and unabated force and power for good, an important landmark of the Order, instead of impairing it, is worthy of a trial.

Comp. JOSEPH P. HORNER, from the Committee on Correspondence, offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter of Louisiana hereby recognizes the *M. E.* Grand Chapter of West Virginia, and extends to her the right hand of fellowship.

Our youngest sister has now, we believe, been recognized and welcomed by a majority of the Grand Chapters of the United States. That she was not formally recognized by the Grand Chapter of California at its last Annual Convocation, was probably due to the negligence of the writer, who, having "too many irons in the fire," allowed some of them to burn ; but we promise to do so no more.

We regret that the proceedings of her last Annual Convocation have not been forwarded to us, but that we may attribute to some of the many accidents which attend our good Uncle Samuel's method of transportation.

We certainly wish her continued peace and prosperity, and trust that our fraternal correspondence may be continued, with pleasure and profit to both.

Comp. HORNER again gives us one of his excellent reports on Correspondence, and we are delighted to see that, while he has been raised to the highest rank in his Grand Chapter, he will still wield the quill reportorial. We could ill spare from the ranks so genial and interesting a writer, even to bestow upon him the highest honors.

He reviews in an able and courteous manner the transactions of thirty-six Grand Chapters, California for 1872 being among the number. He quotes the remarks of Comp. ENGLISH in relation to the use of substitutes, and evidently agrees with him in condemning the practice, and, of the action of the Grand Chapter upon that terribly vexed question, he says : "We would have wished the action had been more radical." He quotes from our report of 1872, our comments upon the action of General Grand High Priest AUSTIN in restoring a Past Master who had been expelled, and says our argument seems to him to be conclusive on the subject. In fact, Comp. HORNER appears to be a very *sensible man*.

In his notice of Indiana, he quotes a remark by the Grand High Priest in reference to himself, to the effect that some remark in a former report was "unfraternal if not ungentlemanly," and appears to feel badly about it. Why, bless you, my dear HORNER, don't you know that the jolly parson who drives the quill for "Old Kentuck" has classed you, CORSON, and myself among the *Pachydermata*, and yet you squeal for a prick like that? Read the raking that TAYLOR of Iowa gives your humble servant in his last report, and be comforted. The shots he fired at us would have pierced through and through a cuticle thinner than that of a rhinoceros, yet they fell from us as readily and harmlessly as water from a duck's back. Let us keep up our reputation as *Pachyderms*, and allow those who shoot at us to rank among the *Pachycephala*.

In his notice of Kentucky, he gets off the following :

"Under the head of New Jersey, he notices our appearance at the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of 1871, and wonders how we could meet CORSON "after those doggerel lines." We wish he could have seen CORSON and ourselves together, or, still better, have observed the warm affection with which we were greeted by the CORSON household, and how all New Jersey turned out to do us honor as CORSON's friend. We like CORSON personally, and he is a good doctor, and we do not think that because he writes miserable Reports on Foreign Correspondence, and has a horrible machine with which he executes rhymes, we should be afraid to meet him. On the contrary, if Comp. HENDERSON will come down here in 1874 and put up with us, he will find CORSON here, probably, before him, and will better appreciate the mutual understanding he and we have of each other's characters, and how we are always cordial to each other unless the horrible subject of the mutual admiration society is

brought upon the *tapis*. We rather like CORSON; indeed, we might say we are specially fond of him; and GOULLEY, of Missouri, has accused us of being in love with each other; but that is not true. Those who are in love are blind to each other's faults; while CORSON and ourselves are terribly familiar with the faults of each other, and never hesitate to expose them to the admiring gaze of an astonished world! We are not sure that Comp. HENDERSON does not like CORSON a good deal himself, for he quotes the whole of the coronation scene; but that, perhaps, is a matter of taste.

A good deal could be said in answer to this argument, but the most may be contained in a few words. Grand Representatives can do no harm, and many cases may arise where they can do a great deal of good. Certainly a companion who appreciates the honor of being appointed to so responsible a post would at least take good care that the proceedings of his own Grand Chapter should safely and promptly reach the Grand Chapter whose Representative he is. He would certainly fulfil his duty of defending the Grand Chapter which he represents should there be any need of it in his own Grand Chapter; and beyond all this, the mere recognition of these Representatives constitutes one of the visible ties by which the Grand Chapters are bound together, and increases their unity of strength."

We only regret that we have not time or space to gather more of the gems of this excellent report, but we have already exceeded our bounds.

The *M. E.* JOSEPH P. HORNER was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* JAMES C. BATCHELOR was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address: New Orleans.

MAINE.

The Grand Chapter of Maine held its Annual Convocation in the city of Portland, commencing on Tuesday, May sixth, 1873,—the *M. E.* JOHN W. BALLOU, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* IRA BERRY being Grand Secretary. Every Grand Officer except one, the Grand Master of the Third Vail, (an officer unknown to this jurisdiction,) was present, and thirty-two out of the thirty-five subordinates were represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered a brief but practical Address, entirely confined to the record of his official acts. He had granted four special dispensations to confer degrees in less time than the Constitution requires, and says: "the circumstances were such as to render the dispensing power justifiable, if ever such license can be so deemed."

The following decisions were referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, who were given until the next Annual Convocation to consider them:

1st. That no *special* meeting of a Chapter can be called without the knowledge and consent of the High Priest, provided he has not permanently removed from the jurisdiction; this being, by the old landmarks, the prerogative of the High Priest.

2d. That no competent election or business meeting can be had without there are present at least nine members of the Chapter holding said meeting.

From the reports of the Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, and Grand Scribe, we infer that the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the "Old Pine Tree State" is most healthy and encouraging. The Grand Treasurer reports the sum of \$3909 51 in the Charity Fund of the Grand Chapter, which yields an annual income for charitable purposes of \$342 94.

The following resolution of respect and condolence was adopted:

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter condole with the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania upon the loss by death of *M. E.* Comp. JOHN WILSON, Junior, their Grand King and our Representative near that Grand Chapter; and that a page in our proceedings suitably inscribed be devoted to his memory.

The Committee on Returns report the aggregate membership of the thirty-five subordinate Chapters as 3500; number of exaltations, 223.

A *per capita* tax of ten cents was levied to meet the expenses of the Grand Chapter during the year. Representatives were received and accredited from the Grand Chapters of Illinois and Nova Scotia.

The Report on Correspondence was presented by Comp. STEPHEN J. YOUNG, Past Grand High Priest. Truly the mantle of Comp. DRUMMOND has fallen upon worthy shoulders.

We mourned when Comp. DRUMMOND announced his intention of laying down the "gray goose quill" to clothe himself in the dignity of his high station; but we have read the report of Comp. YOUNG, and verily we are comforted. He makes his bow with the following modest exordium:

The Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence would gladly begin his duties with an apology for presuming to undertake the labor which Comp. DRUMMOND has so long performed with marked ability and to the very general acceptance of the craft. The elevation of the former Chairman to the highest position in the gift of the Royal Arch Masons of this country, is an endorsement of his masonic ability which must be very gratifying to him, but cannot prove otherwise than embarrassing to his humble successor. We expect to distinguish ourselves rather by temerity in accepting the position, than by ability in fulfilling its duties. "An two men ride of a horse, one must ride behind," says Dogberry.

We do not hope to *ful* Comp. DRUMMOND's place, but we intend "to rattle around in it a little while," as Dr. Holmes said of himself on a similar occasion.

He then proceeds to give us one of the most scholarly, comprehensive, and readable reports it has been our pleasure to peruse for many a day. He reviews the transactions of thirty-five Grand Chapters, and mourns because he could get no more. California for 1872 and 1873, receives courteous notice at his hands. He quotes our little squib relative to the Grand Officers being required to give bonds for the safe keeping and return of their clothing, and rises to explain, as follows:

As this proposition has given rise to much remark, it may be well to explain once for all, just how much was meant by it. It seems to be understood that a bond necessarily implies bondsmen, but such is not really the case, and the intention of the G. H. Priest was not to require any such document. His recommendation was based upon the rules of the Grand Lodge of Maine in such circumstances, where the recipient is required to give a written promise to return all such clothing uninjured at the expiration of his term of office, or pay a sufficient sum to replace it.

This has never been construed as contrary to masonic principles in this jurisdiction, and conveys no imputation upon the honesty of the parties concerned.

Even if it had been intended to require bondsmen, it would not have been so tremendous an absurdity as some have considered it.

The Grand Chapter of California, in common with many other Grand Chapters, requires a bond from its Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary; and late developments would seem to have justified its precaution in this respect.

The last shot strikes us "between wind and water," and we haven't a word to say. Under the head of Connecticut he says: "Comp. Lockwood takes occasion to laugh at the idea of official bonds for the return of Grand Chapter property. This comes with poor grace from a reporter whose Grand Chapter pays twenty-five dollars per annum for prayers, and has two standing regulations on the subject of intoxicating liquors."

Rough on Lockwood; perhaps, however, if the "standing regulations" were strictly enforced, the Grand Chapter of Connecticut might save something in the matter of prayers.

Under the head of Iowa he thus mildly expresses his opinion of their late amiable reporter:

Comp. TAYLOR presented the Report on Foreign Correspondence, reviewing proceedings of thirty-three Grand Chapters.

We hardly know how to speak of the report itself. Comp. TAYLOR speaks so kindly of Maine, that it seems ungracious to find any fault with him; but we must confess that his style of writing is so peculiar and withal so objectionable, that we cannot possibly commend it.

The report would doubtless furnish many good ideas, if they were only translated into presentable English.

Comp. TAYLOR resents praise or encouragement, as the following extract shows:

"It is really amusing to see how carefully some of our brother reporters take us into their lap, chuck us under the chin, and advise us to have courage—tell us we will 'learn,' &c., in time. Once for all, let us say, we have 'shoved the quill' for over twenty years, and think, perhaps, we know something of the 'biz.'"

Perhaps he will be better pleased with our adverse criticism.

Not a bit of it, Comp. YOUNG; and we deem it fortunate for you that TAYLOR has retired from the "biz," otherwise he would prove to you that the pen is mightier than a whole arsenal of swords, as a scarifier.

In his notice of Massachusetts he has the following relative to the change made by the General Grand Chapter in the G. O. W. We give his remarks in full, as they are exceedingly interesting and instructive to those who are calling for "more light."

The subject of the Tetragrammaton and the action of the General Grand Chapter thereupon was referred to the Grand Council, who made a long and able report at the Quarterly Convocation, Sept. 10, 1872.

They give the following letter from Comp. J. P. BLAND, Grand Chaplain, which we copy in full on account of its extreme importance to all those who wish to look at the authorities upon this question :

"CAMBRIDGE, Sept. 4, 1872,

"To the M.: E.: Alfred F. Chapman, G. H. P. of the G. R. A. C. of Mass.:

"DEAR COMPANION CHAPMAN:—The general questions you were pleased to submit to me concerning the exact meaning and signification of the words Jah, or Jehovah, Bel, or Baal, an On, together with the more special questions as to whether Baal was formerly used to designate Satan, and On was simply and solely the name of an Egyptian city; assisted, and in conjunction with my friend, the Rev. E. J. Young, professor of Hebrew and oriental languages in Harvard University, I have carefully examined and considered, and would beg to submit the following as the result of our joint investigations. Quotations given from languages other than the English, I have translated, in most cases, omitting the original.

"Concerning the signification of Jah, or Jehovah, . . . * there can be no difference of opinion. It was the name of the Supreme Deity among the Hebrews; it is derived from the verb . . . meaning *to be*; and referred to God as the *eternal immutable*. See GESENIUS, SCHENKEL, CASSEL, WINER, HERZOG, DELITZSCH, KITTO, DAVIDSON, SMITH.

"The meaning of Bel, or Baal, is equally unquestionable. The name is derived from the Hebrew verb . . . (baal), which means to be lord or master over anything. It was the name of a tutelary god of the Phenicians, Tyrians and Hebrews of Samaria. See GESENIUS, WINER, SCHENKEL, BUXTORF, KITTO, or any standard authority or common encyclopedia. It would be easy to quote authorities and give extracts *ad infinitum* on this point, but I will cite only three, from works in our own language, easily accessible to all.

"GESENIUS' Hebrew and English Lexicon, p. 146, says: 'Baal, i. e. the Lord . . . (by pre-eminence), as the name of a chief domestic and tutelary god of the Phenicians, and particularly of the Tyrians: worshipped also by the Hebrews, especially of Samaria, with great pomp, along with Astarte.'

"SMITH'S Dictionary of the Bible, edited by HACKETT & ABBOTT, vol. 1, p. 206, says: 'Baal, the supreme male divinity of the Phenician and Canaanitish nations, as Ashtaroth was their supreme female deity.'

"New American Encyclopedia, vol. 2, p. 436, article 'Baal,' says: This word (Baal) is of Phenician origin, and signifies lord or ruler, and was used to designate the supreme deity by the Phenicians and the Chaldeans, and most of the oriental nations, of the time of the Exodus.'

"That Baal and Bel are synonymous—Bel being the Chaldaic form and the Babylonian name of the God Baal—may be seen by reference to GESENIUS, FURST, BUXTORF, and others.

"Baal or Bel, then, is recognized by all our oriental scholars as being the name under which many of the early nations worshipped God, or a god; and the statement reported to have been made at the last meeting of the General Grand Chapter, that it was the name of the devil, has, apparently, not the slightest foundation; in fact, is not alluded to in so far as I can ascertain by any authority whatever; certainly in no standard authority of the present day.

"On . . . or . . . was both the name of an Egyptian city and the Coptic name for light, or the sun. As the name of an Egyptian city, it was called by the Hebrews, Bethshemesh, or 'house of the sun.' By the Greeks, Heliopolis, or 'city of the sun.' By the Arabs, Ainsheims, or 'fountain of the sun;' and it was celebrated for the worship and temple of the sun, one of the gods of the Egyptians."

The primitive meaning of On, however, was sun, or light, and under the name On, the ancient Egyptians worshipped God. To the fact that On meant the sun or light, we have the testimonies of CYRILL (Bishop of Alexandria), JABLONSKI, CHAMPOLLION, AUGUST KNOBEL, GESENIUS, RITTER, WINER, HERZOG, HAMBURGER, KITTO, and many others. In proof of this, I will give a few, from many references that I have collected, principally from English and German authorities.

"GESENIUS, in his Thesaurus, p. 52, says: ' . . . (On.) Gen. 41; 50, 41, . . . 45, 46: 20. A proper name of an ancient Egyptian City, Ezek. 30, 17, called by the Hebrews 'house of the sun,' Jeremiah 43: 13; by the Greeks Heliopolis, by the

* The Hebrew and Greek characters are necessarily omitted.

Arabs 'fountain of the sun.' In Coptic books it is constantly called——(see Exodus 1: 11: Ezek. 30. 17, Gen. 41: 45,) and On, without scarcely any doubt, signified in the old language, light, especially the sun.'

Dr. Freid Tuch. Com. on Genesis, p. 448, 1871, quoting Cyrill of Alex. says: "Cyrill on Hosea, p. 145" says: "..... (sc.) (On, which is according to them, i. e. the Egyptians, the sun), which is confirmed by the Coptic O E I N, light, sunlight, in Jablonski Panth. I. p. 137; Ap. I., p. 185; Champollion, C' Eg. Phar. II., p. 41; in Hieroglyphic——Champ. Egypt, p. 79.

"Dr. G. B. WINER, Biblisches Real-Worterbuch, I. 175, says: 'In Egyptian, On means light, sun.'

"KITRO, Cyclopædia of Biblical Literature, vol. 3, p. 365, says: 'On is a Coptic and ancient Egyptian word, signifying light and the sun.'

"Lastly HEZOG, in his Real Encyclopædia, X., 610, says: 'This worship (of On) was, without doubt, the most spiritual of all the Egyptian worship; this priesthood was, without doubt, not only the most influential in the State, but also the most fitted to draw a worshipper of Jehovah into its circle; 'since On was the city of the temple of the sun, and On, in Coptic and old Egyptian, means sunlight.

"In conclusion, permit me to say that I have examined these questions, not as a Mason but as a scholar. The authorities to whom I have referred are scholars who are masonically unknown, and whose opinions on these and similar questions are of the very highest authority, and their opinions on the questions submitted by you to me for examination are,

"First, That Jah or Jehovah was the name by which the Hebrews knew the Supreme Deity, and signified the *eternal*, the *immutable*.

"Second, That Bel, Baal, was worshipped both as the Supreme God, and as a god by many of the early nations, such as the Phenicians, Tyrians, Babylonians and Hebrews; and there is no evidence to show that it was ever applied to Satan.

"Third, On was the name both of an Egyptian city, celebrated for its temple and worship of the sun, and also of the sun and light itself; and by that name God was anciently worshipped.

"Most sincerely and fraternally yours,

"JOHN P. BLAND, B. D.,

"Grand Chaplain."

In consequence of the report, which is in entire conformity with the results reached by Comp. BLAND, the Grand Chapter adopted the following recommendation:

"We therefore recommend that this Grand Chapter continue to instruct in the ritual in the future, as it has in the past, believing that the interests of Royal Arch Masonry will be best promoted by protecting the landmarks against innovation and transmitting unimpaired the traditions received from the founders of the Order in the old world as well as in the new.

"It is also recommended, that it will not violate any allegiance to this Grand Chapter, if its subordinates shall instruct their members in the way and manner of the change attempted to be made by the General Grand Chapter; to the end that they may be skilled workers wherever they may visit."

Whatever may be the opinion as to the propriety of such action upon the part of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, there can be but one opinion about the incorrectness of the reasoning of those by whom the change was effected.

The religion of the Chaldeans was to a certain extent astral, and bore a very striking resemblance to the old classical mythology.

BIL or BEL is one of the gods who composed a triad, which reminds us of the familiar Jupiter, Pluto and Neptune of our early school-days. The principal deity of the Chaldean Pantheon was called IL or RA, who had two sons, ANA and BEL. The word BEL is but another form of the Assyrian or Semitic-Babylonian word BIL or BILU, which means *lord*, corresponding to the Hebrew Baal. The word IL is only a variant of the root EL, which appears in the Hebrew Elohim and the Arabic Allah, and signifies God.

RA, the other name of the same deity, is the Cushite equivalent for the same idea, and appears again in the Egyptian mythology as the name of the sun, which was an object of adoration among many races as the source of light, heat and life. It is hardly a matter of doubt that he was worshipped at Heliopolis under the name of ON, inasmuch as Cyril, Bishop of Alexandria, says that the sun was called ON among the Egyptians. The city was also known by the same name—a coincidence which, though not very appalling in itself, seems to have struck terror to the hearts of the G. G. Chapter.

BEL was held in high esteem among the ancient Babylonians, who made him the tutelary deity of their capital. Their king Nabonidus gave his eldest son the name of Belshazzar, which indicates that the prince was placed under the special care of BEL. This would indicate that the king did not feel that horror for BEL, which seems

to have seized the great exponents of Masonry, as we cannot assume that any king would name the heir to his throne after a personage of such unfortunate antecedents and bad personal character as were attributed to the Babylonian Deity by his enemies in the General Grand Chapter.

Max Muller, in his article upon Semitic Monotheism (Chips from a German Workshop, Vol. I, p. 360), says:

"Like Dyans, like Indria, like Brahman, Baal, and El, and Moloch were names of God, but not yet of the one God."

* * * * *

"There is hardly one single Semitic tribe which did not at times forget the original meaning of the names by which they called on God. If the Jews had remembered the meaning of El, the Omnipotent, they could not have worshipped Baal, the Lord, as different from El."

We think that the members of the General Grand Chapter acted upon an *ex parte* statement, and without proper deliberation upon a subject which required a considerable amount of research in order to be treated intelligently. There were probably but few members present at the Convocation who had ever heard the subject discussed at all, and they took the remarks of prominent Masons as their guide in voting upon a question which they were totally unprepared to decide.

A few minutes spent in consulting Appleton's Cyclopedia or Worcester's Dictionary, would have put them in a way to have at least an intelligent doubt as to the absolute trustworthiness of the theory, which has led to the abolition of what had almost become a landmark.

If the General Grand Chapter decides to make any more changes in our ritual, we hope that its action will be based upon a better foundation than the arguments adduced for the support of this innovation.

A moderate fear of the devil has been supposed to be beneficial to the greater part of mankind, but the mere mention of his name ought not to have caused such a complete "demoralization" among the representatives of our Grand Chapters, that they should utterly desert the standards under which they had fought so long. They did not even stay to learn whether it ever was his name, but surrendered at once unconditionally, although they had history and Masonic tradition on their side.

It is openly charged by some of our brother reporters that Comp. Pike had a sinister motive in making the statement to the General Grand Chapter which induced that body to make the change. However this may be, we regret the change was made. There are many incongruities in the work of Masonry, but they have been handed down to us from generation to generation, and if we attempted to reconcile them all, we should soon have an Order which the patriarchs in Masonry would scarcely recognize.

There are many flowers by the wayside in this admirable report which we would gladly cull and present to our readers, but we must forbear.

The table of statistics shows the aggregate membership to be 3319.

The *M. E.* HORACE H. BURBANK was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* IRA BERRY was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address: Portland.

MARYLAND.

The Grand Chapter of Maryland assembled in Special Convocation, in the city of Baltimore, on the fourteenth day of January, the *M. E.* GEORGE L. McCANAN, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* WILLIAM A. WENTZ being Grand Secretary.

The principal object of the Special Convocation appears to have been to devise some plan for a more thorough dissemination of the work.

The following remarks by the Grand High Priest give us a view of the situation:

The Grand Chapter at its late Convocation was pleased to commend, through its committee, the practice of the Grand Officers visiting the subordinate Chapters, especially those outside the city of Baltimore, but failed to practically recognize the fact that some expense is attached to such visitations, which properly should be borne by the Grand Chapter.

There is manifest unwillingness to present to the Grand Chapter, unauthorized, a claim for expenses incurred in the discharge of official duty, in view of the fact that such has not hitherto been the practice; I therefore think proper to lay the matter before you, that you may by your action indicate the policy to be pursued towards the Chapters outside the city of Baltimore.

The difficulty was promptly remedied by the adoption of the following resolutions :

Resolved, That the Grand Lecturer be required to visit each Chapter in this jurisdiction, at least once during each year, and receive an annual compensation of one hundred dollars therefor, and in addition to said salary, shall be paid his actual expenses incurred in visiting Chapters located out of the city of Baltimore.

Resolved, that the *M. E.* Grand High Priest, in company with such installed Grand Officers as he may deem necessary, be and he is hereby requested to visit the subordinate Chapters at least once a year, and that he is hereby empowered to draw on the Grand Treasurer for all moneys necessary to defray the expenses of such visits.

The Annual Convocation was held in the city of Baltimore on the tenth day of November, 1873. Thirteen subordinate Chapters were represented at the opening.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is a brief but business-like paper. He had visited all the subordinate Chapters in the jurisdiction during the year, an act of official fidelity of which few Grand High Priests can boast.

He speaks as follows concerning the condition of the Order :

The past year shows marked improvement in all that pertains to the Royal Craft in this jurisdiction, and gives great promise for the future. The companions throughout the State have, with few exceptions, exhibited such zeal and energy as calls for the highest commendation, and no reasonable doubt exists, that if the same liberal policy as at present practiced towards the subordinate Chapters on the part of the Grand Body, is continued, that great and permanent good will result.

We fully concur in the following :

It is not the chief end of Masonry to make Masons, notwithstanding a laudable desire to recognize among our numbers good and true men wherever they may be, and yet, we find the feeling prevails with a great many, that when there is no work, there is no necessity of attendance on their part. No greater mistake than this could be made, as upon the attendance of the membership and the interest engendered thereby, depends the very existence of the Chapters.

We note the following decisions, all which, according to our ideas, are sound and correct :

1. That it is incompetent for a Chapter under the jurisdiction of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maryland to admit to membership a companion who is not affiliated with some warranted Lodge.
3. Confirmed a previous decision, that objections to a Mark Master must be submitted to the Chapter, and a clear ballot required to enable him to receive the remaining degrees.
4. That the loss of the index finger of the right hand debarred the applicant from receiving the degrees. As, in this case, the petition had been inadvertently received by the Chapter, upon special request, I granted a dispensation permitting its return without a ballot.
5. That suspension for non-payment of dues from a Lodge, also suspends in the Chapter.

The death of Comp. REUBEN A. HOLMES, Past Deputy Grand High Priest, is feelingly noticed and fitting tribute paid to his memory.

The Report on Correspondence is again from the graceful pen of Comp. HERMON L. EMMONS, Jr., and well repays the perusal.

He reviews the transactions of thirty-two Grand Chapters, in a courteous and fraternal manner, carefully noting and commenting upon all matters of general interest to the Craft.

California, for 1873, receives a fair share of attention. Comp. EMMONS can not become reconciled to Sec. 6 of Art. XIII. of our Constitution, relative to suspension for non-payment of dues. After quoting our remarks of last year, he says :

Our objection to Sec. 6 is two-fold : first—that it suspends without trial ; and secondly, it allows a companion suspended to be restored by the act of paying his arrearages. We hold that no Royal Arch Mason should be suspended for any cause, except after due trial, and when once suspended that he should only be restored upon petition and ballot.

We have had frequent occasions to regret that the portals of the Chapter were not more jealously guarded, but have also seen the rights of a Royal Arch Mason regarded as a thing of small value.

Royal Arch Masons have rights, we acknowledge, that should be respected ; but, while asserting their own rights, they should be careful not to infringe upon those of others. The Chapter also has rights ; and when a companion neglects or refuses to pay his dues, he disregards those rights, because the payment of a stipulated sum per month was one of the conditions upon which the Chapter consented to receive him as a member. If he is unable to pay, he has only to make the fact known, and he is absolved from his liability. If he disregards the law and suffers the penalty, he has only to remove the cause of his offending and that act restores him to his former standing. In this we can see no injustice, no infringement of the rights of a Royal Arch Mason.

Comp EMMONS also quotes our remarks relative to the formation of Chapters under dispensation, requiring the limits of all the petitioners, &c., and propounds the following question :

Suppose Charter not granted nor dispensation continued ? What becomes of dimitted members ? Are they not non-affiliates, and must they not petition, and stand the ordeal of a ballot before becoming members of a chartered Chapter ?

To this we answer yes ; but such a contingency will seldom occur ; the very knowledge of that fact, deters the companions from thoughtlessly attempting to establish new Chapters in localities where none are needed, to drag out a lingering existence for a few months, or perhaps years, and then die of inanition. Under our rule, the establishment of a new Chapter is not undertaken without due deliberation, and a careful consideration of all the circumstances likely to affect its interests, consequently, when a dispensation is issued to form a new Chapter a charter is almost sure to follow.

We are always pleased to discuss these questions with our correspondents, and particularly with one who treats us so courteously as does Comp. EMMONS.

The *M. E.* JAMES W. BOWERS was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* WILLIAM A. WENTZ was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address Baltimore.

MASSACHUSETTS.

The pamphlet containing the transactions of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts comes to us this year filled with more than the usual amount of interesting matter. The proceedings at three Quarterly, three Special. and one Annual Convocation are recorded.

The first Quarterly Convocation was held in the city of Boston on the twelfth day of March, 1872, the *M. E.* ALFRED CHAPMAN, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* Z. H. THOMAS, Junior, being Grand Secretary. The only business of general interest transacted at this Convocation was the action had on the Representative system. It appears that the Grand Chapter of New York had appointed *M. E.* HENRY CHICKERING, Past Grand High Priest, its Representative near the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts. The Communication of the former Grand Chapter making the appointment, was referred to a committee who reported as follows :

1. It appears that the action of Masonic Grand Bodies in appointing Representatives near other Grand Bodies is a novelty in Masonic usage, and of very modern origin.
2. That such action finds little favor from Grand Masonic Bodies generally. The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts has repeatedly declined to recognize such representation. The Grand Encampment of Massachusetts and Rhode Island has likewise refused to commit itself to the custom.
3. This Grand Chapter has now a Committee of Foreign Correspondence, through which it is able to inform itself of transactions of moment accomplished in other jurisdictions ; thus obviating any apparent necessity for Representatives near it from jurisdictions. The proceedings of this Grand Chapter, together with the report of its

Committee of Foreign Correspondence, are published, and copies are sent to all other Grand Chapters in this country; so that they are informed of what transpires in this jurisdiction that is of interest for the Craft to know.

4. It does not appear that the office of Representative is other than simply honorary, and in all respects nominal. Under present laws no power or privilege is or can be associated with such office. Therefore, —

5. With only the warmest feelings of respect and affection for Excellent Comp. CHICKERING, and the most respectful and fraternal regard for companions of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New York, it is deemed inexpedient at this time to reorganize representation.

We think the Committee arrived at a somewhat hasty conclusion when, in the second paragraph of their report, they assert that the representative system “finds little favor from Grand Masonic Bodies generally.” On the contrary, the reports from other jurisdictions show that the system is not only growing in favor, but has actually been adopted by a large majority of the Grand Masonic Bodies, both in the United States and British Provinces.

Suppose, as the Committee assert, the office of Representative is “simply honorary, and in all respects nominal;” what harm can there be in the bestowal of the honor, or in its reception by any worthy member of a Grand Body, if he chooses to accept it and feels honored thereby.

The office of Representative, however, may be made something more than a merely honorary or nominal one. When a companion is appointed as Representative of a Grand Chapter, he naturally feels from that moment a deeper interest in, and a warmer fraternal feeling towards that Body and its members than ever before. If any question arises affecting its interests, his voice will be raised in defense of those interests.

It is true that Committees on Correspondence have done much to disseminate knowledge, and to cherish fraternal relations between sister Grand Bodies; but, when their reports are made, their task is ended, and they do not feel that peculiar interest in any particular Grand Body, that its authorized Representative naturally would feel.

We will suppose that some honored member of the glorious old Grand Chapter of Massachusetts should desire to visit California, and that here he would be as a stranger in a strange land; knowing that his Grand Chapter had a Representative here, would it not be natural for him to seek that Representative, and would it not be simply natural for the companion occupying that position to show the stranger every attention in his power? It may be said that any Royal Arch Mason would do this; true, but would he feel the same interest as one who felt himself officially connected with the jurisdiction from which the stranger hailed?

Again, suppose some Royal Arch Mason of Massachusetts should desire some important information which required care, skill, and good judgment to obtain, would he not naturally seek aid of the Representative of his Grand Chapter, who would feel bound to use every endeavor to accommodate him?

If we cannot convince our worthy companions of Massachusetts that there is no good in the system, we would thank them to show us where lies the harm.

The Grand Chapter unanimously adopted the following “Particular Regulation” which has always been in vogue in this jurisdiction, viz.:—That before a dispensation for a new Chapter should be issued, satisfactory evidence must be produced that the petitioners intend to become members thereof, and their dimitts from the Chapters of which they last were members must be presented and they must sign the By-Laws of the new Chapter.

The second Quarterly Convocation was held on the eleventh day of June, but no business of general interest was transacted.

At the third Quarterly Convocation held on the tenth day of September, the Committee on the subject of the Tetragrammaton presented a most interesting and

elaborate report, in which great learning and research are displayed; we would gladly place it before our companions in this jurisdiction but for its length. The Grand Chapter, however, adopted the following recommendation of the committee:

We therefore recommend that this Grand Chapter continue to instruct in the ritual in the future, as it has in the past, believing that the interests of Royal Arch Masonry will be best promoted by protecting the Landmarks against innovation, and transmitting, unimpaired, the traditions received from the founders of the Order in the Old World, as well as in the New.

It is also recommended, that it will not violate any allegiance to this Grand Chapter, if its subordinates shall instruct their members in the way and manner of the change attempted to be made by the General Grand Chapter; to the end that they may be skilled workers wherever they may visit.

The Annual Convocation was held on the tenth day of December, 1873, all the Grand officers being present, and thirty-nine out of sixty-two subordinate Chapters were represented. The Grand High Priest delivered an able and elaborate address, in which he gives a most interesting history of Royal Arch Masonry in Massachusetts. He takes issue with Comp. WILLIAM SEWALL GARDNER, who, in an address delivered at the Centennial of *St. Andrew's* Chapter, asserted that the American system of Royal Arch Masonry was introduced into that Chapter by THOMAS SMITH WEBB, assisted by JOHN HAMMER. The Grand High Priest proves conclusively that all the degrees of Royal Arch Masonry were conferred in *St. Andrew's* Chapter before the time of WEBB. He reports the Craft to be in good condition, that harmony has characterized their labors, and that peace and prosperity prevail. We judge from the following extract that he has not been idle, and we find there words of wisdom which we may well take to ourselves:

During the year I have visited thirty of the Chapters fraternally and officially, and am highly pleased with the care, skill and fidelity of the companions and the consequent prosperity of their Chapters. Great attention has been given to the ritual, the officers strive to excel in improvement and discipline, and thus each may well rejoice in the other's prosperity.

Excellent work will make an excellent Chapter, emulation begets success, and this the companions have made a duty. The officers have been careful to avoid innovation, feeling assured that however much of abstract merit any change or variation may possess, yet the only work and the true work is that which is promulgated in Annual Convocation by the Grand Chapter. Change begets change, and promotes discussion; of this I am assured the companions are well aware; hence the commendable efforts of all to abide by and maintain the established ritual.

I have during the year installed the officers in ten of the Chapters; to four of these occasions the ladies were admitted, and they as well as the companions seemed to enjoy the ceremonies. To two of them none below the grade of Master Mason were admitted; and I am well assured that in neither of these public, or partially so, occasions, did our grade suffer by comparison.

Comp. JOHN W. DADMUN sets before us a treat in his excellent Report on Correspondence. Owing to the fact that the proceedings went to press some three months earlier than last year, the number of Grand Chapters noticed is much smaller than usual, being but sixteen; but what Comp. DADMUN has lost in quantity he has more than made up in quality, as he has given us one of the most readable reports we have yet perused. Of California he speaks kindly and approvingly, using Comp. CORSON's funny introduction of the writer into the field of correspondence, and quoting several passages from our report of 1872, signifies his concurrence in the sentiments therein expressed.

On the representative question he says:

If it should prove to be an "additional tie of friendship" between the Grand Bodies, we certainly shall not oppose it. We now have two links in this golden chain of friendship; one is representation in the General Grand Chapter, the other the Committee on Correspondence. If direct representation between the Grand Chapters will add another link we will say Amen.

Upon the question of objecting to candidates for advancement, he discourses as follows:

When a brother has been carried through to the R. A., and then objections are made to his advancement, those objections should be stated to the Chapter, or a committee, and the Chapter should decide upon their merits. We do not believe that an objection or a "protest" should have the "same effect as a black ball until withdrawn by the companion presenting it." If Masons were always perfect, and free from unworthy prejudices, it might make a difference. Masons are but men, subject to like passions with other men. How often it is the case that stories are circulated detrimental to the character of an applicant for the degrees, and the committee having the case in charge, after a thorough investigation, find them to be wholly unfounded!

The validity of a protest in the cases above cited, should be decided by vote of the Chapter. Look at the condition in which these brethren are placed by this decision. They are not only M. M., but they are M. M. M., P. M. and M. E. M., in good and regular standing too, for the protest is only against their advancement. If there is a protest that should stop them from receiving the R. A., then it should be embodied in the form of charges, and after due trial the brethren should be expelled from all the rights and privileges of Masonry.

The course indicated by Comp. DADMUN as the proper one to be pursued in such cases has long been the law in this jurisdiction. When objections are made to a candidate before initiation, that objection operates as a black ball and rejects the candidate for one year unless withdrawn, but at the expiration of that time he may again apply, the same as if he had been rejected by a black ball, but after a candidate has received one degree, he has then acquired certain rights of which he cannot be deprived by a simple objection, unless the Chapter decide that objection to be a good and valid one.

The Grand Chapter of West Virginia received fraternal recognition, and on that subject, Comp. DADMUN says:

We do not think that the General Grand Body would, if it could, deprive this new Grand Chapter of its Masonic sovereignty. There is one thing, however, West Virginia can do, and *ought* to do, and that is, separate the Council degrees from the Chapter; then she would be on a footing with the great Body of Royal Arch Masons of the United States. Whatever may be her course in this matter, we do not think the General Grand Chapter will *seduce* this young sister, although she appears really beautiful and attractive; but if it can *win* her to a marriage by love and good works, we presume the old mother will not fret much about it. At any rate, when daughters make up their minds they usually go, in spite of the old folks. We shall pat this young *Virgin-ia* kindly, and win her if we can.

We concur.

There are many good things in this admirable report which we would gladly copy, but the devil (printers) is at our elbow calling for copy, and "needs must when the devil drives."

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were both re-elected. Address: Boston.

MICHIGAN.

The twenty-fifth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Michigan was held in the city of Detroit, commencing on the twentieth day of January, 1874,—the M.°. E.°. JOHN W. FINCH, Grand High priest, presiding, the R.°. E.°. J. EASTMAN JOHNSON being Grand Secretary.

Not a single *pro tem.* appears in the list of Grand Officers, and a round dozen of Past Grand High Priests graced the opening ceremonies with their presence. Representatives were present from eighty-three subordinate Chapters out of the ninety borne upon the roll.

The Grand High Priest delivered an able address, replete with those high and noble sentiments which should ever characterize the true Mason; and from it we infer that the Royal Craft in Michigan is flourishing and prosperous in an eminent degree. He says:

Capitular Masonry is a germ peculiar to our own free government, where there is liberty of thought, of action, and expression, where freedom to worship God according to the dictates of our own conscience is guaranteed to all. A few months more than a quarter of a century have elapsed since the first organization of this Grand

Chapter, yet to-day it numbers ninety subordinate Chapters, with a membership of about seven thousand. From your own observation, and from the reports of subordinate Chapters, you are advised that Royal Arch Masonry is advancing with rapid strides. Men of refinement and culture, pure of mind and thought, eminent for good deeds and high and holy aspirations, have sought our ranks and become earnest co-workers with us.

But while our rapid growth is a matter of congratulation to ourselves, we should bear in mind that our status as an institution will not be fixed by our numbers, but by the manner in which we, as individuals and citizens, perform our part in the active duties of life.

Dispensations were granted for the formation of five new Chapters, and but two special dispensations were issued during the year, and these the Grand High Priest says he would not have granted had he not been satisfied that the emergency was sufficiently great to warrant his action, and that the Royal Craft would be benefitted thereby. He recommends that a fee be charged for such dispensations, partly to discourage the tendency to apply for them, and partly as a source of revenue. We note the following decisions:

A brother is elected to receive the degrees in Chapter No. 1, and after being advanced to the degree of Mark Master removes into the jurisdiction of Chapter No. 2, and petitions to that Chapter for the balance of the degrees. The Chapter obtains jurisdiction.

Question. Can the degrees be conferred without a ballot?

Answer. No. At his own request he relinquished all rights that he acquired by the ballot in Chapter No. 1, while it in yielding jurisdiction imparted to him no new rights, except the right to petition. His petition, therefore, must be referred to a committee and lie over until the next regular meeting of the Chapter before a ballot can be had, which ballot must be unanimous to secure his election.

Case 2d. A brother is elected and receives three degrees in one Chapter, then removes into the jurisdiction of another and petitions that Chapter for the R. A. degree. The Chapter obtains jurisdiction and confers the degree without a ballot. He signs the By-Laws, and pays dues to the Chapter.

Question. Is he legally a member of the Chapter?

Answer. No. Each individual member of a Chapter has an inherent right to express through his ballot his assent or dissent to every applicant for membership in his Chapter. The Chapter erred in not submitting the petition to a ballot. The companion is entitled to a certificate from the Chapter, that he is a non-affiliated Royal Arch Mason in good standing.

In this jurisdiction, in each of the above cases, the permission of the Chapter in which the brother received the preliminary degrees, would have been requisite before the remaining degrees could have been conferred upon him by any other Chapter. The fact that a Mark Master, Past Master, or Most Excellent Master, has removed beyond the territorial jurisdiction of the Chapter in which he received the degrees, does not absolve him from his allegiance to that Chapter, nor can any other Chapter legally receive his petition for the remaining degrees, without the permission of the mother Chapter.

He recommends the division of the State into districts for the more convenient exemplification of the work; also, that no Mark Master shall be advanced until he has selected his mark and had it recorded in the book of Marks. Both excellent recommendations.

He announces the death of Comp. FRANCIS DARROW, Past Deputy Grand High Priest, and pays an appropriate tribute to his memory. He speaks feelingly of the suffering caused by the terrible epidemic in Memphis, Shreveport, and other southern cities, and fitly eulogises the self-sacrificing devotion to the cause of humanity, exhibited by those who left their pleasant homes to brave the pestilence, to minister to the sick and dying, and to bury the dead.

All honor to the noble hearts, say we, who enlisted in such a service.

He closes his interesting address with the following impressive exhortation, which all Royal Arch Masons will do well to heed:

Let us evince our attachment to our ancient Institution by a firm and constant adherence to its rules and to its precepts, and prove our advancement by constant and

untiring practice of the important and sublime truths which are so beautifully illustrated and so forcibly symbolized by it in our ceremonies and our ritual, so that it may be well with us here and well with us hereafter.

In the case of a subordinate Chapter who, after finding a companion guilty of gross unmasonic conduct, refused to inflict any penalty for the offence, the Committee on Grievances to whom the matter was referred, in their report, after stating the facts, say:

Intemperance is a Masonic crime, and the offender must atone to the offended law ; and the Chapter that winks at such acts, and gives countenance to such unworthy examples should learn now and forever, that it will find no aid or sympathy in this Grand Body ; on the contrary, our severe condemnation.

Your committee, therefore, recommend the adoption of these resolutions :

1. *Resolved*, That *Hudson* Chapter, No. 28, be reprimanded by the M. : E. : G. H. P. as soon as he can conveniently do the same, for its action, in refusing to inflict a Masonic penalty on companion ENOS CANIFF after finding him guilty of the charge aforesaid.

2. *Resolved*, That ENOS CANIFF, a member of *Hudson* Chapter, No. 28, be, and he is hereby, expelled from the rights and benefits of Royal Arch Masonry.

Which resolutions were unanimously adopted. A righteous verdict.

A "slight unpleasantness" having occurred between the Grand Chapter of Michigan and the Grand Chapter of Florida some years since, by means of which, all fraternal correspondence between these Grand Bodies was for a time suspended ; we are delighted to see that messages of peace and good will have healed all existing differences, and that the *entente cordiale* is once more restored. Let us hope it may never again be interrupted.

The Report on Correspondence by Comp. J. EASTMAN JOHNSON, Grand Secretary, is a model of its kind, and one which well repays the perusal. He reviews the transactions of thirty Grand Chapters in a courteous, pleasant, and interesting style ; his selections are judiciously made, with a view to impart all the information possible in the space allotted him.

His notice of California for 1873, is most kindly and fraternal. He characterizes our report for 1873, as "an elaborate, carefully prepared and able document." We elevate our capillary protector and *Ko-tow*. In speaking of our remarks relative to his opposition to the representative system and to the use of substitutes he says : "Will he please note that our objections are not unkindly presented." We have ever noticed, Comp. JOHNSON, that your objections, when made, have been courteously presented, and that, when differing in opinion with your brethren of the quill, your views have been expressed in language which leaves no sting, and thus the perusal of your reports affords us unqualified pleasure.

With reference to a decision by the Grand High Priest of the District of Columbia, he says :

He decided that one who had been duly elected three years before in another jurisdiction, where he then resided, could not now receive the degrees here, except on request of the Chapter in which he had been elected.

He no doubt had authority enough for his decision, and much very pretty argumentation has been set forth to sustain such a rule. But we think it high time that the extreme technicality of the rule and its foundation should yield to a rule of common sense and practical convenience. It has often been held that non-application for the degrees for one year after an election, should work an annulment of the vote. The same good sense should be applied when one has removed from the jurisdiction where he was elected, and a residence of one year in a new jurisdiction should, in our opinion, entitle him to present there his petition, and the Chapter to receive and act upon it.

We concur ; but had the party elected taken any of the degrees in the Chapter which elected him, then we contend that permission from that Chapter would be necessary to enable any other to confer the remaining degrees upon him. In reference to that absurdity, the dropping from the roll for non-payment of dues, he says :

Is not this matter a little mixed? When a companion is "dropped," where does he stand? Is he a member or not a member? If a member, why don't you try him in the first instance? If not, why do you try him at all?

This subject of being "Dropped from the Roll," and N. P. D., is full of confusion among the craftsmen everywhere, and sadly needs revision.

We can assure our companion that it creates no confusion here. We saw the confusion it was likely to create, and provided a remedy. Our motto is: "If a man will not work, neither shall he eat;" and we suspend all the drones without ceremony. We would like to make further extracts from this able report, but our time is up.

We thank Comp. JOHNSON for the graceful manner in which he accepts our *amende* for last year's delinquency, and for his kindly good wishes toward ourself; and we assure him that if Michigan is not on our list this year, a certain printer we wot of will be troubled with a headache.

The *M.: E.:* ALFRED I. SAWYER was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R.: E.:* J. EASTMAN JOHNSON was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address: Centreville.

MINNESOTA.

The twelfth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Minnesota was held in the city of St. Paul, on the twenty-fourth day of June, 1873,—the *M.: E.:* J. H. McKENNEY, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R.: E.:* WILLIAM S. COMBS being Grand Secretary. Fourteen subordinate Chapters were represented at the opening.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is brief, and confined principally to a recital of his official acts. He decided that a brother who had lost his left hand could not be received into the Chapter, but says: "The above decision is not given without a deep sympathy for the unfortunate brother, and I submit the question of his relief, if within your reach, to your better judgment."

Charters were granted to two Chapters under dispensation, and one dispensation was issued to form a new Chapter. A very able and interesting Report on Correspondence was presented by Comp. A. T. C. PIERSON. He reviews the transactions of thirty-eight Grand Chapters; also those of the General Grand Chapter of the United States for 1871. Comp. PIERSON is a pleasing writer, and we regret to learn that he has retired from active service as a reporter. California for 1872 receives a fair share of his attention. He quotes the following from the Address of Comp. ENGLISH:

It is much to be regretted that WEBB and his associates succeeded in establishing the present Chapter system of the United States, it being an entire innovation upon the body of Masonry as previously constituted; but that system has been adopted, not only by the Grand Chapters which originally formed the General Grand Chapter, but also, I believe, by those which did not acknowledge its authority.

Upon this he comments as follows:

We assent to the first proposition, but we are surprised at the second; how it is possible, at this day, for a Royal Arch Mason, who reads at all, much more a Grand High Priest, to say: "by the Grand Chapters which *originally formed* the General Grand Chapter," we cannot understand.

Fifteen years ago the assertion would have been excusable; but now, when the facts as to its organization have been so extensively published, the reiteration indicates a want of—perception.

With reference to naming Chapters after living men, he says:

In the History of Masonry, no JOHN SMITH appears whose memory is so well deserving "of nomenclatural honors" as our old friend "old Governor Brown," as he was familiarly called. A reporter, when Foreign Correspondence was in its infancy, Grand Master and Grand High Priest, his name was identified with Masonry in Florida for years, and years and years.

We appreciate and endorse Comp. WIGGIN's idea, but must remark that he could not have known of the venerable Comp. BROWN, or he would not have used that name in that connection as a comparison to elucidate his proposition.

We assure Comp. PIERSON, that we knew nothing of the history of Comp. BROWN, and simply used his name to illustrate a general idea, without the slightest intention of hurting the feelings or wounding the sensibilities of any one. We learn that the venerable companion has, after a long life of usefulness, gone to his reward; and we sincerely sympathise with the companions of Florida in the loss they have sustained.

He quotes that portion of our report relative to the right of officers of a Masonic Body to resign, and says:

"Them's" our sentiments exactly—but don't put on your statute books an enactment that "*under certain circumstances*" certain officers can resign; state the certain circumstances. Again, vacancy in office does not involve the necessity of a special election. We hold that in a case of a vacancy in the office of High Priest or King, a special election can be held only with the assent of the officer next in rank, whose prerogatives might be affected by such election.

We concur fully in the foregoing and think we stated clearly the "certain circumstances" under which we believe the officers of a Masonic Body had the right to resign.

Upon the subject of allowing the use of substitutes, under the head of Alabama, he makes the following sensible remarks:

If "one" substitute is allowed, why not *two*? Again, why require a "dispensation"? We hold that there is something due to candidates, that the earnest, zealous brother should not be incommoded or put to needless expense because of the lukewarmness or condition of one or both of those who started with him.

The residence of a candidate is a long distance from the location of the Chapter; he can attend only at considerable inconvenience and some expense; at one time there is not a quorum present at the time designated for a convocation; at another, he is the only candidate present; at another, some of the officers are absent, and there are none present competent to fill the positions. In our experience we have known many—very many—instances of the kind; often have we heard the remark, "I am getting sick and tired of this kind of thing. I have been here half a dozen times to get my degrees, and have been put off; the degrees can not be equal to my anticipations, or those in possession of it would manifest more interest."

All admit that a wrong is done to the candidate, and companions are willing to remedy the wrong by conferring the degrees; a time is set, the candidates notified, officers and companions present, but only one candidate, and he the one who has traveled a long distance.

As the circumstances had not been anticipated, no dispensation had been applied for, and one could not be obtained for the evening, as the Grand High Priest resided in a distant part of the State.

We contend that there should be no legislation on the subject of substitutes, except, perhaps, admonitory;—that the companions should be the judges of the propriety or necessity for their use.

There are always present at our convocations a sufficient number of conservative companions to prevent an undue use of liberty. We regard the "substitute question" as one of *policy* only.

Questions of *principle* should be defined, and no variation from, or infringement of the law be permitted, by dispensation or otherwise; but questions of *policy* should be determined by the companions, because conversant with all the facts; they are the best qualified to judge of the necessity or propriety of a certain course of action.

We are opposed to the whole system of dispensations, particularly in Capitular Masonry; and we hold that *no* officer of any Body holding any relation to Masonry—the *Grand Master alone excepted*—has any right or authority to grant dispensations for any purpose whatever, except that by the *written* constitutions such authority is conferred, and that for specifically named objects.

Grand Masters, being older than written constitutions, have *inherent* rights and prerogatives; but all other officers of Grand Bodies are the *creatures* of the *written* law, and have no such rights or prerogatives.

Under the head of Iowa, which Grand Chapter adopted a general regulation making it obligatory upon members of Chapters to be members of some Lodge, Comp. PIERSON, says:

We do not question the *power* of the Grand Chapter, but we do the *policy* of making such a regulation, and we prophesy that it will remain a *dead letter* on the statute book, or will soon be repealed.

We dissent from Comp. PIERSON on this subject. A similar law has been upon our statute book for twenty years, has worked admirably, is by no means a dead letter, and no attempt has ever been made to repeal it. We hold that "it is the duty of every Mason to be a member of some Lodge," that he may discharge his share of the duties and bear his portion of the burdens which Masonry entails upon all her votaries. A non-affiliate is a drone in the hive; he expects to enjoy all the benefits of the Masonic connection without rendering any equivalent; and if permitted to remain in the Chapter, he shirks his duty by hiding beneath the shadows of the Royal Arch, and says to the honest working Mason in the Lodge: "Come not near me for I am holier than thou." Then if sickness or misfortune overtakes him, he is swift enough to claim the aid and sympathy of his brethren of the Lodge, to which he has made no contribution, and from which he cannot reasonably demand assistance. We have no patience with non-affiliated Masons, or with those who advocate their cause; but Comp. PIERSON having classed us correctly—among the "old fogies"—this may be one of our old foggy notions. In conclusion Comp. PIERSON recapitulates the services he has rendered to Royal Arch Masonry in Minnesota, and intimates that some injustice has been done him, in fact charges squarely that he has been removed from his position as chairman of the Committee on Correspondence by the operations of a "ring." We regret exceedingly that such a conclusion should have been published to the world, for such utterances as the following do not evidence that harmony and good fellowship which have greeted us in the proceedings from every other quarter:

The *Ring* having decreed, and *subservienoy* acceded to our decapitation, we shall avail ourselves of this opportunity to review our connection with the Royal Arch in Minnesota, as an intimation of the gratitude to be expected for services rendered, both individually and masonically, and of the appreciation of years of time and large pecuniary expenditures, to build up, sustain and advance the institution, by those who, the recipients of the benefits, have obtained the control. Ever since, in the requirement of duty, we performed an act in which we were almost unanimously sustained by our own Grand Lodge, and by all the Grand Lodges and Committees on Foreign Correspondence, that noted the performance; we have—abnegation has ceased to be a virtue—been the subject of calumny, vituperation and misrepresentation.

All done secretly. Allegations made openly can be met, but when made secretly—"don't say anything. I tell you this on the *square*," accompanied with a shrug of the shoulders, those from a distance, who have no personal acquaintance, think it must be true.

In speaking of his retirement from the reportorial chair, after quoting a funny story from DRUMMOND apropos to the situation, he says:

It is a "forced put," and we wish the parties joy at their success, who have been so long endeavoring to deprive us of the "pittance" which we have received for getting up these reports.

To the reportorial corps we bespeak for our *friend* and successor that kindness and forbearance which has ever been extended to us.

We know nothing of the circumstances which led to Comp. PIERSON's deposal; we have read his reports with pleasure, for they were ever courteous and fair, and we regret that we must part with him under such circumstances, but we know his successor, Comp. E. D. B. PORTER, to be an able and interesting writer, and we shall expect a number one report from him next year.

The *M.·E.·* JAMES N. CASTLE was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R.·E.·* E. D. B. PORTER was elected Grand Secretary. Address: St. Paul.

MISSOURI.

The General Grand Chapter of Missouri held its twenty-seventh Annual Convocation in the city of St. Louis on the ninth day of October, 1873, the *M.·E.·* JAMES E. CABTER, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R.·E.·* GEO. FRANK GOULEY being Grand Secretary.

All the Grand Officers except the Grand Royal Arch Captain were present, and fifty-three subordinate Chapters were represented at the opening.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is a model of brevity. He alludes to the death of Past Grand High Priest RYLAND, and pays an appropriate tribute to his memory.

He appealed to the Grand Chapter for immediate relief for the sufferers at Memphis, and the appeal was not made in vain, as the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars was at once appropriated.

He had issued dispensations for the formation of four new Chapters, and one dispensation for the purpose of holding an election of officers in a subordinate Chapter, at a time other than that named in the Constitution. This he afterwards discovered to be *contra lex scripta*, and recommends a change in the law, giving the Grand High Priest power to issue such dispensations when in his discretion it shall be advisable.

The venerable Grand Treasurer, now past eighty years of age, and who had held the office for nineteen years, sent a communication to the Grand Chapter, stating that, owing to sudden and unexpected financial difficulties, he had been forced into bankruptcy and was unable to pay the amount of \$2,331 43 which had been placed in his hands as Grand Treasurer. The Committee on Accounts offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the sympathy of the Grand Chapter be and is hereby extended to our venerable Grand Treasurer in his great misfortune at his advanced age. That upon examination the Committee on accounts are fully satisfied that it was no fault of his own that he has been rendered bankrupt and unable to at once meet his financial obligations.

The Report on Correspondence is again presented by the Grand Secretary, Comp. GEORGE FRANK GOULEY, and is something so different from what we have been accustomed to receive from that quarter, that we were taken somewhat by surprise. It is what he terms a "condensed report," and the term is certainly not misapplied. Arkansas is condensed into two lines, California into three.

Comp. GOULEY says he desires the companions of Missouri to have an opportunity to see a "condensed report," in order that they may have an opportunity to judge as to which style they prefer. We are inclined to the belief that the companions will desire but one specimen of a condensed report.

The *M.·E.·* XENOPHON RYLAND was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R.·E.·* GEORGE FRANK GOULEY was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address: St. Louis.

NEBRASKA.

The last we have heard from Nebraska is from the Proceedings of 1872, for which we are indebted to the courtesy of Comp. E. A. ALLEN, Past Grand High Priest.

We hope we have done or said nothing to offend our worthy companion the Grand Secretary, and for which, as a penalty, he crosses us off his list of correspondents. We always look with avidity for the Proceedings of Nebraska, and feel greatly disappointed if we do not receive them. Wake, up, Comp. WHEELER, and send us the transactions of 1873, to complete our files, and enable us to write about something later than events which transpired two years since.

The sixth Annual Convocation was held in the city of Lincoln on the seventeenth day of June, 1872, the *M.·E.·* E. A. ALLEN, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R.·E.·* ROBERT W. FURNAS being Grand Secretary. The Grand High Priest delivered an excellent address, from which we extract the following, every word of which we heartily endorse:

Masonry has withstood the ravages of time, unmoved and unharmed amid the assaults of ignorance, and is most shielded and enduring when its votaries are following its precepts; for then it is being girded about with the armor of Truth when resisting error, and all assaults from without are strengthened by a more perfect union

within. Hence, while gliding along in apparent security and unconcern, I would sound down the line the tocsin, ere by the swelling tidal wave of popularity we may be engulfed or stranded, and left a wreck of pristine reality and renown. To avert this, I appeal to you, at all times, to "guard well" the "Outer Courts," but especially so when impatient numbers are knocking for admission. Let none pass our veils—being prompted by idle curiosity—or who would seek to attain thereby pecuniary advancement, or who, from any cause, would be likely to engender dissensions and discord among us. Or, who would gain an entrance to obtain our jewels and signet, by the aid of which, as indorsers, they might with indecent haste traverse the lines of our confine and effect admission into some other council or asylum never to be seen here more, known only as companions save in the memory, or by our records. Such as these, or akin to these, are at best sluggards and drones among the Craft, or worse, perhaps "dead weights" which may ultimately carry us down to inevitable discomfiture. Be vigilant and circumspect, and with a scrutinizing eye admit only such as will take the Book of the Law as the rule and guide to their faith and actions; who will incline to the practice of those virtues out of the Chapter which are inculcated in it, will cling with unyielding tenacity to our cardinal tenets and the Ancient Landmarks which our Fathers have set; who will "without the hope of fee or reward" in this life, become willing co-laborers upon the Temple which we would build to the Omniscient and Eternal I A M. While such are our companions, even though limited in numbers, we are indeed strong in the bonds of Brotherly Love and Unity, and success in the "great work" will be our *final reward*.

The Convocation occupied three days, but the business transacted was entirely of local interest.

An able, full and interesting Report on Correspondence was presented by Comp. DANIEL H. WHEELER, who courteously reviews the transactions of thirty seven Grand Chapters, also those of the General Grand Chapter. California receives a most kindly notice, and he is pleased to speak of our report of 1872 in terms of praise, for which we tender our thanks.

It is one of the very best reports that has come under our notice, but, as we before remarked, it is hard to review reports of so ancient a date. The *M. E.* ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* DANIEL H. WHEELER was elected Grand Secretary. Address: Plattsburgh.

NEW JERSEY.

This Grand Chapter held its seventeenth Annual Convocation in the city of Trenton on the tenth day of September, 1873, the *M. E.* T. H. R. REDWAY, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* JOHN WOOLVERTON being Grand Secretary.

All the Grand Officers were present at the opening, and we notice that six Past Grand High Priests and several other Past Grand Officers lent the dignity of their presence to the occasion. Twenty-six subordinate Chapters were represented.

The following beautiful ode, by Comp. THOMAS J. CORSON, was sung during the ceremony of opening :

Hail, Companions, swell the song,
Every voice the strain prolong,
Join in chorus loud and strong,
On to victory ;
Lift our banners, let them wave,
Onward still, the wretched save,
Smooth their pathway to the grave,
Be their friend indeed.

Give the aching bosom rest,
Carry joy to every breast.
Make the poor and needy blest :
Grant them kind relief.
Raise the glorious watchword high,
" Love ! Relief ! and Charity ! "
Let the echo reach the sky,
Swelling joyfully.

Masons all, from pole to pole,
Love may guide and truth control,
Sorrows come—what can condole,
Griefs like Masonry !
Kindly smiling we have met,
Welcome each, and ne'er forget,
Absent ones whom we regret,
Friends in Masonry.

God of mercy ! hear us plead,
Help us while we intercede :
Oh, how many bosoms bleed—
Heal them speedily.
Hasten then the happy day,
When, beneath thy gentle ray,
All the world shall own thy sway,
Reign triumphantly.

The Grand High Priest delivered a sound, practical Address, in which he sets forth clearly his official acts, and gives some evidence that he has not gone through his term of office with his eyes shut, but that he has been watchful of the interests of the Royal Craft in his jurisdiction, and prompt to rebuke wrong-doing whenever it came to his knowledge :

We extract the following gem as sparkling with true Masonic light :

How pleasant it is thus to gather around our sacred altar to renew our fraternal sympathy, to extend the warm hand of love to each other, and in sincere and true devotion, render to that Supreme One—who is the author of our being—the source from whom come all our comforts and blessings—the purest and most acceptable thoughts of our hearts. It would be unbecoming in us as intelligent men, unfaithful in us as Masonic brethren, if we failed to recognize the Author and to befittingly render to Him our thanksgivings for the blessings we constantly enjoy. I claim it as one of our Masonic duties, "and not only a duty, but a privilege and should be a joy," to thus bow in reverential acts, forming a chain of fraternal love around our sacred altar, thank Him for past favors, ask for future blessings, and call down upon our heads from Him a benediction.

Two cases of violation of jurisdiction are noticed, which appear however to have been amicably disposed of. Three dispensations had been granted for the formation of new Chapters, and in each instance the petitioners were required to fully exemplify the work to the satisfaction of the Grand High Priest, before the dispensation was granted. A safe and good rule to adopt.

Application having been made to him for a dispensation to elect and confer the degrees upon a candidate before the constitutional time had elapsed, he very properly refused to grant the dispensation, no justifiable cause having been assigned for such an act.

He decided that "suspension or expulsion in a Blue Lodge must of necessity work a like result in the Chapter. Also that a Chapter could not be legally opened unless one of the first three officers was present with the charter. Also that any companion in good standing whose dues are paid, is entitled to a dimit, and if, on applying for it, objections are made to granting it, these objections must assume the form of charges and be sustained to prevent him from receiving it. And fourth, that the High Priest of a Chapter may authorize expunged from approved minutes anything which in his judgment is improper to be written, but nothing else." In all which we concur, but would like to be enlightened as to the *modus operandi* of the expunging process. He also decided that "a brother whose right limb was bent stiff at an angle of about forty-five degrees, could not be received in the Chapter." What will comp. CARSON say to this? We commend the following to the Grand High Priest of this and other jurisdictions, and hope they may profit by the suggestion :

During the year, in company with my associate Grand Officers, I have visited very many of the Chapters, and inspected personally their work and condition, and it is a source of gratification to me to be able to report a very decided improvement in their work, as well as everything else connected therewith.

Much is due, to more effectually bring about this desirable result, to the fact that early in the year I issued a circular to the Secretaries of the different Chapters, propounding certain questions for them to answer, relative to matters connected with the bodies. Their answers I placed in the hands of the visiting officers to those Chapters, with instructions for them to see that they were made correctly, and to report to me if they discovered anything that was wrong. They followed out my instructions, and it has resulted, I am glad to say, in the correction of quite a number of irregularities practiced by our subordinate Chapters.

He had arrested the charter of one of the subordinates for "gross irregularities on the part of the officers and members, in allowing the secrecy of the ballot to be constantly violated, and also infringing upon the rights of companions by practicing games to prevent members from voting upon the petitions of candidates."

The reports of the Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, and Grand Scribe, show a very satisfactory state of the Order in New Jersey, which is pretty sure to be the case everywhere, when Grand Officers make frequent visits to the subordinate bodies and encourage them by their presence, advice, and instruction.

The "Committee on History" made the following report, which was adopted and the committee continued:

The Committee on History of Royal Arch Masonry in New Jersey, would respectfully report that considerable progress has been made in the work, although thus far we have been unable to find the records of the old Grand Chapter of this State. The chairman of the committee has received a very courteous letter from Mr. CHARLES S. SCOTT, son of the late Comp. JOSEPH WARREN SCOTT, who was Secretary of the original Grand Chapter of New Jersey, in which he says that he will examine the papers left by his father, and states that he will place at our disposal any documents that he may find which relate to this Grand Chapter.

Owing to the illness of the chairman of this committee, he has not been able to examine the records of *Union Chapter*, No. 7, but he hopes to do so at an early day.

In view of the importance of this subject, your committee would respectfully ask to be continued.

The Report on Correspondence is again presented by Comp. THOS J. CORSON, and although compiled under the most adverse circumstances, is not a whit behind its predecessors in wit, humor, and interest. Comp. CORSON, in an unnecessary apology for the incompleteness of his report, explains that, having been attacked by a painful disease of the eyes, which prevented his reading or writing, the report was prepared at his dictation, by his little daughter, who, sacrificing all her pleasures and amusements to aid her father in the hour of his need, worked on at her arduous task until the report, consisting of one hundred and one closely printed pages, was accomplished.

What a treasure is such a daughter! While Comp. CORSON has our warmest sympathy in his distress, we cannot refrain from reminding him that there are sometimes sweets in adversity which prosperity never would develop.

The transactions of thirty Grand Chapters are reviewed in his usual racy and interesting style. To read one of CORSON's reports is a rare treat, a "feast of fat things" which, however, does not cloy. He has always a pleasant word and a merry jest for all, and don't get mad if you talk back. In his notice of California for 1873, he thus alludes to the writer:

Comp. CHARLES L. WIGGIN presented the Report on Correspondence, in which the proceedings of thirty-three Grand Chapters are fraternally noticed. We approach the consideration of this report, as also that of the Grand Chapter of Oregon, with great fear and trepidation; and we involuntarily place our hands upon the few remaining strands of capillary substance which sparsely sprout upon our venerable caput, because we fear that the Modocs are not all dead yet. And we can not restrain a slight shudder as we stand in the presence of "Schonchin John" WIGGIN and "Captain Jack" PATTON, lest our unfortunate scalp should dangle from the belt of one of these trenchant warriors.

We assure Comp. CORSON that, although we are in fact, an Indian Chief, yet we are not of the Modoc Tribe. PATTON is a full-blooded Modoc, and would think no more of taking his scalp than of peeling a turnip; but we are a *Digger*, and a "good Ingin."

He quotes at length and approvingly from our report of 1873, and says some very pretty things to us, which modesty forbids us to repeat.

In response to Comp. LEWIS, of Connecticut, who says :

" We have never had the pleasure of meeting Comp. CORSON, but we feel that, having read his vigorous, learned, sprightly, and affectionate reports, we know him for a good, wise man, and a beloved companion, whose acquaintance would be a privilege and whose friendship would be an honor "—

Comp. CORSON gets off the following :

For all of which we would merely say to our distinguished companion of Connecticut, in the sublime language used by David to Nathan, when Nathan was giving David some sound advice and sage admonition, and warning him to be careful not to go too far in his flirtation with the fascinating Mrs. Uriah : " Beloved, I owe you one. Will you take it sugared or plain ? "

This beats our quotation from Job by a length, and we think CORSON found that quotation by the aid of one of his most powerful microscopes.

Under the head of Iowa, with reference to the matter of writing the work of Royal Arch Masonry, and preserving a copy in the archives of the Grand Chapter, by Grand High Priest LUSE, Comp. CORSON says:

We beg leave to remark that this seems to us to be a very *loose* proceeding for companion LUSE to be guilty of, as well as a very improper performance for all parties concerned; and this for reasons which we cannot put in print, but which will at once be understood by every one who properly regards his O. B. as an E. A.

We are glad to find some one who has the courage to speak out in this matter. We referred to it last year, and got an awful blowing up from our irascible friend TAYLOR in consequence.

We are somewhat surprised that our brother reporters should have kept so quiet upon what we regard as a matter of great importance to the Craft, and we hope to hear from more of them on this question.

Under the head of Louisiana, he quotes what HOSMER says of him as follows:

" In his review of Massachusetts, he compares the volume containing their proceedings, on account of its neatness, clear type, and faultless paper, to be like a ' bride just risen from the bath.' Now, with all due respect for the lady already alluded to in one of our quotations from this reprobate, we would like to know what he knows about a bride in the bath. We have always thought that doctors had innumerable opportunities for invading people's privacies, and seeing things that no other set of men are ever allowed to gaze upon, but this seems to us to be entirely outside of the usual vocations of our friend, the doctor; and we would ask whether he cannot, in his next report, give us a more detailed description of how a bride looks in that position, and how he came to acquire his knowledge."

To which CORSON responds:

• Now we do not propose to tell this unsophisticated youth everything we know, or how we came to know so much, lest he should become wise in his own conceit. But if he will step into our office some day this week (July) we will pack up our valise and take him with us to the " Summer Capital; " and there, " Upon the beach at Long Branch," as he beholds those lovely Nereids as they come from Neptune's embrace, beautiful in their sloppiness, his ignorant mind may become enlightened upon the subject of female grace and beauty.

" Beautiful in their sloppiness " we consider as decidedly rich.

He gets off the following on WHEELER of Nebraska, who, heedless of consequences, poked fun at him:

Comp. WHEELER thinks that our labors in the reportorial line entitle us to a copy of " Miss Killmansegg, bound in scarlet and gold." We will most gratefully accept this donation from Companion W. ; but, if the companions of Nebraska will consent to have a sufficient quantity of Comp. W.'s *cutis vera* removed for that purpose, we would rather have the volume bound in *calf*.

We think WHEELER will subside after that shot. No one can form an idea of the interesting character of Comp. CORSON's reports from these desultory extracts; the whole report must be read to be properly appreciated, and as we cannot find

room for the whole, we will e'en stop where we are and bid CORSON an affectionate good-night.

The *M.:E.:* WILLIAM H. McILHANNEY was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R.:E.:* THOMAS J. CORSON was elected Grand Secretary. Address: Trenton.

NEW YORK.

The Grand Chapter of New York held its seventy-sixth Annual Convocation in the city of Albany, commencing on the fourth day of February, 1873,—the *M.:E.:* REES G. WILLIAMS, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R.:E.:* CHRISTOPHER G. FOX being Grand Secretary. One hundred and eighty subordinate Chapters were represented at the opening.

The Grand High Priest in his Address says :

The year has been reasonably fruitful of prosperity to the Craft. Individual and united effort to widen its influence and correspondingly extend the sway of the beneficent spirit of Masonry has been earnest and effective on the part of companions throughout the jurisdiction ; and I am able to report that our Chapters have had, as a rule, a wholesome sufficiency of employment, and that the ranks of the Royal Craft within our borders have been reinforced with all the rapidity necessary to a healthful growth. We are thus encouraged to anticipate a further goodly fruitage from our field. In our prosperity let us not forget to recognize the wise and gracious Providence that has so directed our course and blessed our labors in the past, and to render thanks to the Most High for it.

He announces the death of five members of the Grand Chapter since the last Annual Convocation, and pays a fitting tribute of respect to their memory.

Three dispensations were issued for the formation of new Chapters.

The address is brief and concise, stating clearly his official acts ; all which were confined to matters of local interest.

The question of recognizing the Grand Chapter of West Virginia was postponed until after the triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter, to be held in Nashville in November, 1874.

The Committee on Jurisprudence presented the following report, which was adopted :

1. The Grand High Priest in his Address requests a construction of Section 27 of the Constitution. The committee are of the opinion that the section should be construed precisely as it reads, with respect to vacancies in elective offices occasioned by removal, after election, beyond the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter. We hold that such removal, with intent to make a residence without the jurisdiction, creates a vacancy ; nor does it vary the case from the fact that the companion returns soon after and becomes a resident within the jurisdiction. The vacancy is caused by the removal with intent to reside without the jurisdiction, and a return does not fill the vacancy.

2. The inquiry is put to us, "Has a Chapter the right to assess a tax upon its members for necessary Masonic purposes?" Our answer is, undoubtedly ; and upon the same principle that a Chapter may impose the payment of ordinary dues to meet its liabilities, or to conduct its business. If it may impose ordinary dues, it may certainly require the payment of extraordinary dues when the exigency of the case requires it ; of which it may be the sole judge. It may enforce the payment of such tax upon all such companions as were members of the Chapter at the time it is assessed, in the same manner as the payment of other dues.

The Report on Correspondence is from the pen of Comp. D. A. OGDEN, and although the first we have seen of his workmanship in that line, is an able, courteous, and comprehensive paper. He reviews the transactions of thirty-one Grand Chapters, California for 1872 receiving kindly and paternal notice. He dissents from our views relative to the Order of High Priesthood, and presents his ideas in the following language :

The question with us has been definitely settled, and settled adversely to the views of the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of California. We regard the Order of High Priesthood as important, as instructive, as essential to the full investment of the High Priest in all his functions ; and until he is thus authoritatively and solemnly invested with his full honors and functions ; in short, until he is

anointed in due form and by competent authority, he is not qualified in full to execute all the duties of a High Priest. It is undoubtedly true that both a diversity of views and of practice, decisions and authority, obtain in different Grand Bodies, yet we are content with our own view and practice, and believe it the right view of the matter, though we have no hard words for those who differ with us, or whose practices fall short of what we regard as the full measure of work and authority.

So long as New York is satisfied with her practice, we do not feel like arguing the matter further, but regret that we cannot fully agree with our companions of that jurisdiction.

Under the head of Connecticut, Comp. OGDEN expresses our views fully on the objection question. He says:

We agree with him (Comp. LOCKWOOD) in his dissent from the opinion expressed in the Address of the Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Michigan, in regard to the advancement of a candidate, to whom objection is made, after having been elected and received, and after entering upon his progress in the degrees. At any stage the single objection, followed by a single black ball, is sufficient to stay the march; and he who objects or who casts the ball may not be called to account or questioned for his reasons or conduct. The ancient landmark has fixed the rule, and the reasons for it are ample, although in some cases it may act harshly and unjustly.

The following, under the head of South Carolina, we fully indorse:

"I would earnestly urge upon the subordinate Chapters a closer scrutiny into the fitness of candidates in the first place, and more careful exercise of patience in teaching the ritual."

The subject thus presented is one of general interest and importance. The truth is that almost everywhere there is too much anxiety and eagerness to gain in numbers, and too little scrutiny into character and fitness; and then, again, when the portals are opened and the candidate has crossed the threshold, there is too much haste in hurrying him through. His instruction and education by the way is neglected, the solemn and beautiful lessons as they are unfolded in an orderly and befitting and Masonic way, are either entirely passed, or so hastily and casually presented, explained, and impressed, as to really and entirely fail of their object, and in many instances only serve to bewilder, if not to disgust. Masonry is really a science, needs to be studied, reflected upon, and thus engraven upon the mind and conscience to remain indelibly fixed, and to grow and deepen with the lapse of time. We commend this subject to the thoughtful attention of subordinate Chapters. When your Chapters have an application, let there be no haste, but careful inquiry into the character, standing, and qualifications of those who ask the high favor of association with the Royal Craftsmen, and a knowledge of their secrets, their mode of work, and their exalted privileges; and when satisfied, and the candidate is accepted, then admit him and advance him only in due and ample form. Let him feel and know that the work in which he is engaged, the ceremonies through which he passes, the obligations he assumes, and all the solemn lessons that are imparted to him, are really and truly worthy of his attention, and calculated to elevate his thoughts, purify his heart, and to fix therein the impress of truth, virtue, and charity. Do not push him through, as though the only object was to reach the end in the quickest and shortest way, and the only desire to secure his membership. Let him understand and feel that the benefit is to him, and not to the Chapter only. In this way, and in this way only, will the Chapters become influential and useful, and the Order command the respect and exercise the power which of right should cluster about it. When none but the good, the wise, and the true have place among the Craftsmen, then will it become Royal—not because of the titles of this world, but from the character, standing, and manliness of those who belong to its ranks.

In this connection, and as entirely germane to it, we would suggest that a remedy for the evil of a too hasty and neglectful conferring of the degrees, the disregard of the ritual, the bungling, not to say worse than useless imparting of the lectures and lessons, so essential to a full knowledge of the subject, will be avoided and the evil best corrected and overcome by a firm and inexorable rule that Chapters must not work unless instructed to work correctly. Some, if not the main fault, lies in the ignorance, the want of study and knowledge on the part of the officers of subordinate Chapters; they attempt to do what they cannot do, and to work when they have neither skill, knowledge, or intelligence to do it in a proper and becoming manner. Let the Grand Chapter, by making it the duty of its officers, or by some competent and instructed officer, see to it, by frequent visitations and instruction, that the subordinate Chapters and their officers are competent and well informed, and able to confer all the degrees with all their parts, and then that they do it, and a change would soon be effected, and the character of the Craft elevated in its personae and in its influence.

There are one hundred and eighty-seven Chapters in this jurisdiction, with an aggregate membership of 16,812.

The *M. E.* THOMAS C. CASSIDY was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* CHRISTOPHER G. FOX was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address: Buffalo.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The Grand Chapter of North Carolina held its twenty-fifth Annual Convocation in the city of Wilmington, commencing on the second day of June, 1873,—the *M. E.* JOHN NICHOLS, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* THOMAS B. CARR being Grand Secretary.

Ten subordinates were represented at the opening. The Grand High Priest delivered an excellent Address, from which we extract the following:

The year has not been an eventful one as regards Capitular Masonry in our jurisdiction. We can only say that we have made another twelve months' journey over the rough and rugged road of life, and some of our companions have finished their pilgrimage; and while we meet amid the ruins of our earthly courts as weary sojourners, they have reached the Heavenly Temple, and are filling its arches with the melody of praise.

While the hearts of the Overseers have not been gladdened during the past year by a large amount of work for our temple, we have to congratulate ourselves on the harmony which prevails within our borders. How shall we successfully address ourselves to the task of removing the rubbish and rebuilding our waste places? It is a labor worth our attention, and one which, if successfully inaugurated and completed, will redound to our honor and to the usefulness of our order. It has been said that, "rightfully considered, all nature is the tabernacle of God, constructed for his worship. The tabernacle of the wilderness was a miniature model of the whole earth. Every man has a part assigned to him in the occupying and adorning of this wonderful tabernacle, whose floor is the green fields, whose walls are the rocks and mountains, and whose roof is the blue vaulted sky. Every man who performs a day's work is a fellow worker with God in carrying out his design in creation, in improving the face of nature, changing the wilderness into a garden, developing the latent resources and capabilities of the earth, converting its crude materials into shapes of beauty and forms of usefulness, in making the world fairer and richer, and thus better fitted as the home of man and the shrine of the Most High. The farmer who makes grass grow upon the mountains and converts the waste places of the earth into fertile meadows and smiling cornfields; the laborer who drains and trenches the soil; the engineer who constructs bridges and roads; the architect who builds dwellings and temples; the artisan who changes the metallic ore and the timbers of the earth into useful and ornamental articles; the manufacturer who adapts to human uses the raw materials which the earth furnishes; the artist who idealizes the scenes and the objects of nature and of human life—are each and all contributing to make the earth a tabernacle of God's glory and for man's worship and welfare." What is true in the physical world is equally true in the moral—of those who labor to improve the conditions, moral and pecuniary, of their fellow-men, and aid a reformation.

It was my fervent wish that I might be able, at the close of my present and last term of official service, to report an increase of prosperity to capitular masonry in this jurisdiction, but I sincerely regret that the present state of the craft will not justify me in so doing.

We regret exceedingly the apathy which evidently prevails among the companions in North Carolina, and trust that a better state of feeling will speedily be inaugurated. The following gives a melancholy picture of the condition of affairs in that jurisdiction:

I again call your attention to the apathy and indifference of subordinate Chapters. I cannot see the reason for allowing Chapters—Chapters in name only—to hold charters and meet about once in every year, never exalt a candidate, never pay any dues, and are never represented at the Grand Chapter, and practically are a moth—a blot on the fame of Masonry. I therefore recommend that the Grand Secretary be instructed to furnish a list of the chartered Chapters in North Carolina to the Grand High Priest, with a statement of the amount owing by each, when last represented in the Grand Chapter, and that the Grand High Priest be requested to arrest the charter of every Chapter that has neither made returns, been represented, nor paid its annual dues for two years. I repeat that it is better to have a few live, working and paying Chapters than so many idle non-paying ones. Apply the scalpel, companions, and I am fully satisfied that it will be attended with happy results.

The truth is, companions, we have too many drones—individual drones and Chapter drones. Who would give a dozen good working Masons, who do their duty, for treble the number who never attend our meetings and are never to be found when needed, and who do not seem to appreciate the fact that they are Masons at all. They do well for a season, but soon the novelty of the thing ceases, and it is rarely they are seen at our convocations. A few members do all the work and all the paying, and are held responsible for the character of Masonry, both fraternal and financial. The same relation that an individual Mason bears to his Chapter, a Chapter bears to its Grand Chapter. Deliver us from such drones! To many of my companions in this jurisdiction, this position may, and doubtless will be objectionable; to others it may seem unwise, but it is because I love Masonry and desire the preservation of its purity and stability that I thus recommend the probe to its sores. I can only suggest a remedy, it is for you to apply it or not, as your judgment dictates.

A move in the right direction was made by repealing so much of the resolutions of 1868 as provided for the appointment of Custodians of the Work, and giving the Grand High Priest power to appoint such companions as Grand Lecturers as he might deem qualified to act in that capacity.

An excellent Report on Correspondence was presented by Comps. THOMAS M. GARDNER and HORACE H. MUNSON, who thus introduce themselves :

To the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of North Carolina :

We two, who appear before you clothed in the garb of Reporters, together with one other, (Comp. SOUTHGATE, who has our thanks for material aid,) knowing that you were last year disappointed in having a Foreign Correspondent's Report, you would not overlook like inaction again this year, desire making this statement.

Owing to the continued inability of P. G. H. P., Comp. ALFRED MARTIN, the regularly appointed chairman, to perform the duty assigned him, we, the balance of the committee, have endeavored, so far as time permitted, to fill, in a measure, the vacuum so made; and having written apart from each other, and no time for comparison, our opinions may at times clash and a repetition of the same idea may occasionally occur, yet over all we trust the mantle of charity will be thrown, and due allowance made for whatever is amiss.

The transactions of twenty-nine Grand Chapters pass the ordeal of their criticism, among them California for 1872. They quote freely and approvingly from the address of Comp. ENGLISH and from our report of that year, but can not agree with us upon the question of the right of an officer to resign. Well, we may be in the wrong, but no argument has yet been adduced of sufficient weight to induce us to change our opinion.

Under the head of South Carolina, the committee say :

We notice this Grand Chapter prints its report on Foreign Correspondence in advance and places it in the hands of its members, thus saving time during its session.

This course has always been pursued in California. It not only saves time during the session, but gives the members an opportunity to examine the report before it is printed with the proceedings, that any objectionable matter may be eliminated,—for reporters do not always express the sentiments, opinions, or ideas of the bodies for which they write.

Under the same head we find the following sly hit at the representative system :

“If Grand Representation does no good it can do no harm, and may be at least a source of little innocent amusement when the *ambassador* presents his credentials and responds to the welcome given him.”

We think it would be a good idea to create a side degree and call it the Grand Representative degree, and part of the P. M. degree might be tacked on to spin it out and make it duly impressive.

In commenting upon the following resolutions, the committee express our ideas fully :

We find, among the Standing Regulations, two which strike us, and we annex them, recording, however, our disapproval of the first :

“*Resolved*, That whenever a Chapter is convened in regular or special convocation, it should always be opened in the Royal Arch Degree, and if work is to be done in an inferior degree, the Royal Arch Chapter should be called off to open in the degree to be conferred, then closed in that degree, and the Royal Arch Chapter called on, and always closed in the Royal Arch Degree, on the same day.

"Resolved, That the practice of collecting affiliation fee from regular Royal Arch Masons is unmasonic, and its continuance in subordinate Chapters is hereby prohibited by this Grand Chapter."

We would like to hear Comp. SMYTHE's reasons for disapproving the first and agreeing to the last. As for ourselves, we approve the first and disapprove the second. It is very evident no degree can be conferred except in open Chapter, else why the necessity of opening the Chapter at all? Why not open a M. M. or P. M. degree, do the work, and close and go home? And we can not see why the collection of an affiliated fee is unmasonic—explain, companion.

The committee conclude their report as follows :

And now, companions, our labors are ended. If they meet not your expectations, remember their preparation has been under many difficulties, taken not from the time of refreshment and sleep, but rather from that belonging to our daily pursuits—to you, certainly, we need offer no apology for their imperfections. To those of our confreres who are kindly disposed, and "know how it is themselves," we expect "that charity that worketh no ill;" but to those reporters who wilfully wait with hungry eyes to tear our pet limb from limb, we say do your worst, this is your first and only chance, for we never expect to appear before you in this capacity again.

We trust our worthy companions will be induced to change their resolution, as we have not had half enough of them yet.

The M.: E.: H. H. MUNSON was elected Grand High Priest, and the R.: E.: T. M. GARDNER was elected Grand Secretary. Address: Wilmington.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia held a special Convocation in the city of Halifax on the twenty-seventh day of December, 1872, for the purpose principally of considering amendments to the Constitution.

The fourth Annual Convocation was held in the same place on the third day of June, 1873, the M.: E.: S. R. SIMCOX, Grand High Priest, presiding, the R.: E.: JAMES GOSSIP being Grand Secretary. Five subordinate Chapters were represented.

The Grand High Priest, in his Address, clearly sets forth his official acts, and represents the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in that jurisdiction as most prosperous and satisfactory. He had appointed Representatives near twenty Grand Chapters, and announces that their relations with the Grand Chapter of England, and those of this continent, without a single exception, continue to be of the most friendly and satisfactory character.

The Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland still refusing to recognize this Grand Chapter on account of the small number of its admissions and the paucity of its funds, the Grand High Priest cites five Grand Chapters the number of whose yearly admissions are less than those of Nova Scotia, and very truly says: "Numbers are not at all times an evidence of prosperity. The Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, however, may be fully convinced of one wholesome fact, that the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia is a firm organization, and that it has placed capitular Masonry in this Province in that prosperous condition, that otherwise it never would have occupied. We can wait for the recognition of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland; if it comes, well and good, we shall rejoice; if not, we can do without it."

The Committee of General Purposes, deeming the action of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland to be hostile, declared two Chapters holding under that Grand Body,—viz., *Union Chapter*, No. 108, held in Yarmouth, and *St. John's Chapter*, No. 130, held in Pictou,—to be irregular Chapters and forbade the subordinate Chapters from holding any Masonic communication with them.

We regret the necessity for such a proceeding, but we do not see what other course the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia could have pursued under the circumstances.

The Report on Correspondence is again from the genial pen of Comp. JAMES GOSSIP, the Grand Secretary. He reviews in a pleasant and courteous manner the transactions of twenty-nine Grand Chapters, California for 1873 receiving a kindly

and fraternal notice. He concurs in the action of Past Grand High Priest NERR in declaring vacant the office of a High Priest who was not a member of any Lodge, and says :

We would infer that in the Grand Chapter of California, suspension or expulsion from a Lodge, necessarily means suspension or expulsion from the Chapter, without trial, as we notice the following question presented by Comp. WIGGIN :

“ Does the *restoration* of a member of a Lodge after suspension, restore him in the Chapter ? ”

Which was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence. We can find no answer to the question.

Comp. Gossip is correct in his inference, but the committee took one year to answer the question.

The interesting Report on Foreign Correspondence is again by the Grand Secretary, CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN. In reviewing Nova Scotia he mentions the fact that amongst a list of appointments made by our G. H. P., of Representatives near other Grand Chapters, he notices the name of Comp. CHARLES MARSH, as Representative near the Grand Chapter of California, which is quite correct, but we fail to find in the proceedings that Comp. MARSH had presented his credentials as such. We hope he has not been frightened by the Grand Chapter of Scotland bugbear.

Comp. MARSH, not thinking that any delay would be had in the recognition of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, placed his credentials in the hands of the Grand Secretary, but when recognition was postponed, he withdrew them to await a more auspicious opportunity.

Comp. Gossip further says :

We observe in another part of the Proceedings that the subject matter of the circular issued by the Committee of General Purposes of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia in reference to the action of the Grand Chapter of Scotland in selfishly declining recognition of our Grand Body, was taken up, and after lengthy discussion, ordered to be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, with instructions to report thereon at the next Annual Convocation.

We are at a loss to see any reason for this procrastination and useless waste of time on a subject which it appears to us, the common sense of the Grand Chapter of California should have settled immediately, and which is hardly of such importance as to require a twelvemonths deliberation.

We sincerely thank Comp. Grand Secretary CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN for the *independent* and hearty interest he appears to take in our welfare, and assure him that his own remarks as to our stability and the solidness of our foundation are as correct as truth can be, notwithstanding the *selfish* (we must again reiterate that word) opposition of the Grand Chapter of Scotland, which, however, we consider of little moment.

We assure our companions of Nova Scotia that no one will more rejoice than ourselves to witness their prompt recognition by every Grand Chapter in the universe, and our good offices shall not be wanting, if required, to accomplish that result.

On the question of affiliation, or rather non-affiliation, Comp. Gossip is sound. He says, under the head of Iowa :

The question of affiliation, which we consider of importance, has been receiving considerable attention of late at the hands of some of the Grand Chapters. Our individual opinion is that no companion should be allowed to continue a member of a Chapter who is unaffiliated to a Blue Lodge, and that no petition of an unaffiliated Mason for membership should be entertained. There are, however, differences of opinion amongst us on the question, which in all probability will be settled at our next Annual Convocation, as the subject then comes up for discussion.

Upon the subject of allowing the use of substitutes, the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia appears to have taken similar action to that had by the General Grand Chapter of the United States at its last Triennial Conclave ; as, under the head of Kansas, Comp. Gossip has the following :

In the Report on Foreign Correspondence presented by Comp. E. T. CARR, Grand Secretary, our proceedings for 1871 are favorably noticed. We beg to state, however, in answer to a remark “ that dispensations are required in our jurisdiction to

use substitutes in emergent cases," that this question has been set at rest by recent enactments, the Grand Chapter having sanctioned a resolution presented by the Committee of General Purposes, deciding that the use of substitutes was not considered contrary to any Masonic law or usage, and leaving the matter in the hands of the High Priest of each Chapter.

There are five Chapters in this jurisdiction, with an aggregate membership of 225. The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were re-elected. Address: Halifax.

OHIO.

The Grand Chapter of Ohio held its fifty-seventh Annual Convocation in the city of Toledo on the second day of September, 1873, the *M. E.* J. KELLY O'NEALL, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* JAMES NESBITT being Grand Secretary. The proceedings for 1872 failed to reach us from some cause, and we are therefore unable to review them. We hope however there may be no more interruptions, for we like to have complete files for our reports as well as for our archives.

One hundred and thirty subordinate Chapters were represented at the opening.

The Grand High Priest delivered an able and elaborate Address, from which we make the following extracts:

My attention has been called to a matter not unworthy of your consideration, and which manifests too little regard for the spirit of our regulations. It is the rapid succession with which, in some Chapters, the degrees are conferred. Our laws, it is true, still recognize cases of emergency. But the emergency must be real, not fancied. The mere desire to gratify some brother's new-born zeal for advancement, or to accommodate the convenience of the Chapter, will not make an emergency, nor justify the conferring of degrees more rapidly than the spirit of our laws contemplate. Masonry is an education, both of the mind and the heart, and for the growth and development of which time and labor are as essential as for the acquisition of knowledge in any other department. And this should be impressed upon the mind of the candidate, as an incentive to study, and to acquire a knowledge of the sublime truths and mysteries revealed only to the earnest and sincere inquirer. And this desire it should be the object of our ceremonial to stimulate and direct.

The following shows a healthy state of the Royal Craft in Ohio:

The history of Royal Arch Masonry in Ohio during the past year has been crowned with peace, and our Chapters have enjoyed the results of peaceful labor—prosperity. The courts of our tabernacles may not have been thronged with applicants for admission as during a few of the years preceding, but the returns will show that the additions to our numbers indicate, if not a rapid, a steady and vigorous growth, assuring the perpetuity of our institution, and giving renewed promise of moral and intellectual excellence.

Ohio is by no means alone in the following cause of complaint:

A great majority of the questions submitted for my determination have been answered by a mere reference to the rules for the government of your subordinates; and if companions would devote to their examination only a small portion of the time consumed in stating their propositions to the Grand officers, such questions would remain unasked. But an acquaintance with the enactments of this Grand Chapter seems, by too many of the subordinates, not to be regarded as a necessary qualification for the office High Priest; and a knowledge of their provisions to form the exception rather than the rule. This is forcibly indicated by the fact that in several instances the High Priests of Chapters long established have informed me that a copy of the rules and regulations prescribed for their government did not, and for years had not, existed, within their jurisdictions. I suggest, as having some tendency to remedy this evil, that Chapters be required to bind and preserve one or more copies of the proceedings with which they are supplied.

If High Priests would but examine the law for themselves, there would be but few instances where the Grand High Priest's riper experience and superior knowledge would be called into requisition.

We note the following decisions:

I. After the recommendation and consent for the formation of a new Chapter has been given by the nearest chartered Chapter, the petition therefor cannot be altered by adding to or striking therefrom the names of petitioners.

II. The members of recommending Chapters who are petitioners for the formation of a new Chapter, are, at the constitution of such new Chapter under its Charter, demitted from the old Chapter, and become members of the new. But such demission does not operate to release the petitioners from the payment of dues that may have accrued against them in such recommending Chapter, before the constitution of the new one under its charter. And for their non-payment they are liable to be dealt with in the same manner as if they remained members of the Chapter in which the dues accrued.

III. A Past High Priest who has been suspended for non-payment of dues, cannot while so suspended, install the officers of a Chapter, and an installation by such suspended Past High Priest is void.

IV. The indefinite suspension for gross unmasonic conduct of a companion who objects to the advancement of a candidate who has been elected to receive the capitular degrees, removes the objection. And on the removal of the objection by such indefinite suspension of the objector, the High Priest should at a regular Convocation, announce in open Chapter that the objection is removed, and that if no further objection be made (the fees being on deposit) the degree will be conferred at the next regular or some subsequent Convocation; but that the candidate should not be advanced until one month after the announcement in open Chapter that the objection has been removed.

V. A candidate petitioned for and was elected to receive the Mark Master's degree, which was regularly conferred, and at a subsequent meeting he received the Past Master's degree, but after it was conferred, and at the same meeting it was discovered that no ballot had been had for his advancement to that degree. Held, that he had received the Past Master's degree, and was entitled to all the privileges of a Chapter Past Master, and that a ballot for his election to the degree after it had been conferred was without effect.

A somewhat condensed Report on Correspondence was presented by Comp. S. M. SULLIVAN. He reviews briefly but courteously the transactions of thirty-one Grand Chapters, California for 1873 being of the number.

This jurisdiction has 137 subordinates with an aggregate membership of 7909.

The *M.·E.·* J. KELLY O'NEALL was re-elected Grand High Priest, and the *R.·E.·* JAMES NESBITT was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address: Troy.

OREGON.

The Grand Chapter of Oregon held its thirteenth Annual Convocation in the City of Portland, on the sixth day of June, 1873.

The *M.·E.·* JAMES R. BAYLEY, Grand High Priest, presided, the *R.·E.·* R. P. EARHART being Grand Secretary. All the Grand Officers were present and five of the six subordinate Lodges were represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered a brief Address, returning thanks to the Grand High Priest of the Universe for blessings received, and reciting his official acts. He appears to have a true appreciation of the importance of Reports on Correspondence, and especially of such reports as Comp. PATTON writes. We endorse every word of the following:

Our Chairman on Foreign Correspondence compares well with those of other jurisdictions whose numbers are far in our advance. And I would say that the expense of publishing is nothing in comparison to the benefits derived from a full review by our Committee of the proceedings of other Grand Jurisdictions where we find differences of opinion given and questions settled that would not be done in any other way than by a good natured criticism, and in a friendly manner. And I therefore commend our Chairman for his zeal in reviewing, at length, our Sister Grand Bodies, and hope that the new Chairman, whoever he may be, will not neglect a full report at our next Grand Convocation.

The pamphlet containing the transactions of this Grand Chapter is one of the most elegant which has come before us, typographically and otherwise, and reflects credit upon all concerned in its compilation.

The report of the Grand Treasurer shows a balance in the Treasury of \$338 12.

The Special Committee to whom was referred the Grand High Priest's Address reported that, "after a careful scrutiny they were unable to find therein, any matter requiring any special action by your Grand Body."

A committee of three was appointed to revise the Constitution and to present a code of By-Laws for adoption at the next Annual Convocation.

The Report on Correspondence is in Comp. PATTON's best style, which is all that need be said in its praise. He reviews the transactions of thirty-two Grand Chapters, giving California for 1872, her fair share of kindly and fraternal notice. He says of our report of that year :

Comp. CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, Grand Secretary, presents a review of thirty-two Grand Chapters, which we have carefully examined, and find in it much to commend, and but little to condemn.

In his review of the general Grand Chapter he takes issue with the General Grand High Priest, and modestly, but emphatically dissents from the opinion that a Chapter U. D. is a "temporary and inchoate body."

Comp. TAYLOR, of Iowa, also dissented from the same proposition, and we notice that his Grand Chapter dissented from him. It always appeared strange to us that an organization, temporary or otherwise, did not possess the power to discipline its own members—that the law was defective; yet, as so many eminent jurists laid down the broad principle, and maintained its convictions, that we have reluctantly acquiesced, and can now smile complacently at those who contend otherwise.

We call Comp. PATTON's notice to the fact that a majority of our brother reporters concur in our conclusions.

Under the head of District of Columbia, he quotes from Comp. LARNER's report relative to non-affiliates, and in his comments hits the nail squarely on the head, and drives it home. Comp. LARNER, in reviewing North Carolina, complains of the action of the Grand Lodge of that State in passing a stringent resolution relative to non-affiliates, and calls upon that Grand Body to repeal it. In commenting upon this Comp. PATTON says :

It is truly wonderful that great minds will differ. The action of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, in our opinion, was no more than she had a perfect right to do, and we rejoice that she had the nerve to place herself square upon the record in the matter. If we understand the resolution, the Grand Lodge of North Carolina says to *Master Masons*, that such and such things are required at your hands, and makes no allusion whatever to Grand Chapter or R. A. Masons. It is all imagination with Bro. LARNER, in supposing that they were dictating to Grand Chapter.

Whenever a companion has reasons "satisfactory to himself" for remaining non-affiliated with a Lodge, he should be allowed to enjoy them all alone, outside of any Masonic organization. To become a R. A. Mason he must be a Master Mason, and in our humble opinion his relation to some Lodge should be maintained.

The above is the doctrine we have ever maintained. A Mason who will shirk his duties to the Lodge, where all the real work of Masonry is done, is unworthy the name, and should be "thrown over among the rubbish."

We should be glad to follow Comp. PATTON further in his admirable report, but "Time's up."

The *M. E.* JAMES R. BAYLEY was re-elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* R. P. EABHART was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address : Salem.

PENNSYLVANIA.

We find in the pamphlet containing the transactions of the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania the records of four Quarterly and the Annual Grand Communication.

At the first Quarterly Communication, held in Philadelphia, February 1st, 1872, the officers of two of the subordinate Chapters were severely censured for certain irregularities in their work. At the Quarterly Communication held November seventh, 1872, a fraternal recognition was extended to the Grand Chapter of West Virginia. The other business transacted at the Quarterly Communications was of purely local interest.

The "Annual Grand Communication," as it is termed in Pennsylvania, was held in the city of Philadelphia on St. John's Day, December twenty-seventh, 1872, all the Grand Officers being present, and we notice some among them which would look strangely upon our roll, such for instance as Grand Marshal, Senior and Junior Grand

Master of Ceremonies, and Grand Pursuivant. We have no officers which correspond with the above-named in our jurisdiction.

The M. E. Comp. CHARLES E. MEYER, Grand High Priest, was received and greeted as the Representative of the Grand Mark Lodge of England, with the rank of Past Senior Grand Warden.

The Grand High Priest delivered an able and interesting Address, in which he fully sets forth his official acts, and gives a good account of his stewardship.

The following decision relative to the physical qualifications of candidates meets our hearty approval :

In reply to a question by one of the District Deputy Grand High Priests, I decided that the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, page 40, Article XV, Section 39, prescribes the qualification of a candidate. "That he shall have some visible means of an honest livelihood, be a Past Master either by election or dispensation, in good standing with the fraternity and the Master Mason's Lodge from which he hails, and competent to perform all the work in the degrees he applies for.

"If the candidate can comply with all the above requirements, the loss of *three of his fingers of the left hand* should not debar his advancement. To be made a Mason, he must be a perfect man and sound in all his limbs and members ; to be advanced in Masonry, he must be able to do the work and prove himself an expert workman."

The following letter from our learned companion, WM. JAMES HUGHAN, on the degree of Past Master, will be found interesting :

TRURO, ENGLAND, October 1, 1872.

My Dear Friend and M. E. Grand High Priest :

I am anxious so write you *re*, the Past Master's Degree, according to promise made by me last year, and desirous of doing so before your next annual meeting.

As a fact, however, I have found it a most difficult subject to write about, as so little is discoverable of its early history.

When the degree first took its rise I know not as yet, but am continuing my researches, and may yet be able to elucidate the point. I might write a great deal on the subject, but *cui bono* ? A deal would be purely apochryphal, and so, is better left unsaid than written.

It seems to have been the custom (in fact *was*) of the "Grand Lodge according to the old Constitutions" (called the "*Ancients*") to confer the Past Master's Degree in a Craft Lodge to candidates for Royal Arch Masonry. No separate Chapters or warrants were required to work the Royal Arch Degree under the "*Ancients*," and it seems to me most probable that the "Installation Ceremony" originated with that Body ; at least became prominent, and a separate *Degree* under their management. If so, it is not older than, say 120 years. The Grand Lodge of the "*Ancients*" was not actually formed, and no regular records kept, until after A. D. 1750. The minutes still exist, and commence A. D. 1752. The Grand Lodge of England is the custodian thereof.

Whether the regular Grand Lodge, or in other words, the Grand Lodge was formed A. D. 1717, had a knowledge of the Degree so early as 1750, I can not yet say positively, although there does appear evidence that a ceremony of some sort was observed at the installation of a Worshipful Master of a Lodge. In the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England, published A. D. 1788, there is an engraving is the "47th Problem of Euclid," which is the Jewel of the Past Master's Degree.

Under the "*Moderns*" (so called, or the Grand Lodge of 1717) separate warrants were required to work the "Royal Arch," as that Degree was not actually recognized until the "Union of 1813." (It *virtually* was, however, as the leading members of Grand Lodge, from Grand Master downwards, were the officers of the Grand Chapter.) Their first Royal Arch Constitution was published A. D. 1788, and second edition, 1782, both of which I have. The use of substitutes, or any law requiring a *certain number* to be exalted, was unknown. Since the "Union of A. D. 1813," the Past Master's Degree has been confined to the *elected* Master of a Lodge, and to such alone. Hence all Past Masters in England, have actually served the office of Master of a Lodge for a period of twelve months. The only prerequisite, masonically, for Royal Arch Masonry, being twelve months a member of the Third Degree. Until recently, in Scotland, the System of Capitular Freemasonry prevailing in the United States was adopted, but at the Grand Lodge held the 5th February last, it was decided to return to the old English system, and hence the Grand Chapter of Scotland has retired from the control of the Past Master's Degree, and left it entirely in the hands of the Grand Lodge.

The following are the terms of the agreement:

1. That the Grand Lodge shall recognize a ceremonial or Degree to be conferred on Masters of Lodges on their taking the Chair of a Lodge similar to that conferred in England and Ireland.

2. That a Register shall be kept by the Grand Clerk of Installed Masters, and he shall record the name of every installed Master therein, and furnish a diploma upon a certificate being sent, signed by three recorded Installed Masters, that the Ceremonial or Degree has been duly conferred. The fee for registration and diploma to be 2s. 6d.

3. That this Ceremonial or Degree shall under no circumstances whatever be conferred on any one except the actual Master of a Lodge, or one who produces a certificate from the Lodge that he has occupied a chair as duly elected Master.

4. That with the view of carrying out these resolutions, three or more Masters of Lodges or Past Masters, to be selected by the Grand Lodge, shall procure themselves duly installed by three or more English or Irish Installed Masters, and shall thereupon adjust the Ritual to be used in future.

5. That thereafter the said Installed Master shall duly install three or more Past Masters in the cities of Glasgow, Aberdeen, Dundee, Perth, &c., and in any of the larger towns, the Brethren in which may desire it.

6. That the Ceremonial or Degree shall only be conferred when three or more Installed Masters are present, and any Lodge having that number of Installed Masters present at a meeting may confer the Ceremonial or Degree upon its Master;—but in the event of any Lodge not having a sufficient number of Installed Masters, it shall be competent to the Masters of that Lodge to procure himself duly installed at any Lodge having three Installed Masters, provided he produce evidence to the satisfaction of these Installed Masters that he is a *bona fide* Master of a Lodge.

In Ireland, the Past Master's Degree is also confined (or supposed to be) to the Masters *elect* of Craft Lodges, and a ceremony of some sort is worked, as in England, and as it is to be now in Scotland. The ceremony itself is most interesting and rather lengthy. The charges to the officers are valuable if only followed as they should be, and altogether an installation according to the English Ritual is most imposing.

In Ireland there is much irregularity as to the installation ceremony, but the three countries now agree in having a distinct ceremony or degree, for the Worshipful Master elect of a Craft Lodge, and more correctly speaking, it should be termed the Installation Master's Degree, rather than the Past Master's.

With every respect and good wishes to you, Most Excellent Grand High Priest, and the Supreme Grand Chapter,

Believe me, fraternally and faithfully yours,

WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN.

The following decision we fully endorse:

RIGHT OF HIGH PRIEST TO PROVIDE BANQUET.

The following has also been asked:

"Has the High Priest of a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons the right to appoint a committee to provide a banquet, without first receiving the official sanction of the Chapter to such expenditure of the funds of the body."

I decided that "the High Priest had no such right—that the Chapter has alone the control of its funds."

There are many interesting and historical sketches, addresses, etc., that we should be glad to quote from had we time or space; but both are wanting, and we forbear.

We now come to the Report on Correspondence, presented by Comp. WILLIAM J. KELLY, who, although a new laborer in the vineyard, has given us a "specimen of his skill such as will pass the test of the Master Overseer's square." He thus introduces himself to the quill-driving fraternity:

Making our bow on this our first appearance before our companions, we do so with all the more confidence, because we generally find a kind fraternal spirit pervading the whole corps reportorial. In the very few instances which are exceptional, we think it the duty of all to admonish the erring companions kindly, but sufficiently forcible to make harshness unpopular; for while we personally believe in the widest scope of criticism, we do not think it either creditable to our intelligence as men, honorable to our Order as being governed by the broad principles of charity, or desirable to the unification of our different Grand jurisdictions, to have harsh, unbecoming, and unkind sentiments expressed, where apparently we can not agree upon some point of law or custom.

He then proceeds to give a full, elaborate, well-digested, and most interesting report of the transactions of thirty-eight Grand Chapters, and of the General Grand

Chapter for 1871. California is reviewed for 1871 and 1872. He quotes our remarks relative to the decision of the General Grand High Priest as to the inchoate character of Chapters under dispensation, and says they are sound. He quotes liberally from our reports, and appears generally to agree with us. We regret that want of time compels us to leave the consideration of this admirable report.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were re-elected. Address: Philadelphia.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The Grand Chapter of South Carolina assembled in Annual Convocation in the city of Charleston on the eleventh day of February, 1873,—the *M. E.* JAMES A. HOTT, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* AUGUSTINE T. SMYTHE being Grand Secretary. Twenty-five subordinate Chapters were represented at the opening.

The Grand High Priest commences an able Address by congratulating the companions upon the recurrence of the constitutional period which enabled them to assemble together to exchange fraternal greetings, and to devise plans for the advancement and prosperity of the Royal Craft; and he renders grateful homage to the all-wise Disposer of events, who had enabled them to assemble with unbroken ranks. He reports the Craft to be in a prosperous and harmonious condition, and that, owing to this fact, his official duties had been rendered unusually light, only a few cases having arisen which demanded decisions at his hands.

On the subject of physical qualification he speaks as follows :

Among the interesting topics growing out of my official correspondence, I would cite a request for information from one of the subordinate Chapters, as to whether a Chapter has the right to confer the degrees upon a worthy brother, whose physical condition placed him under the ban of our constitutional restriction in regard to candidates who are deformed or maimed. Of course, my decision was in conformity with the plain reading of the law governing such cases, and which admits of no doubt as to its meaning. But reflection suggests to my mind, that a modification of the language employed in the Constitution might be made, without infringing upon the general purport and intention of the rule, or doing violence to the best interests of our institution. Assuming the ground that Capitular Masonry, in this respect, is not analogous to the ancient and honorable order upon which it was founded, I cannot perceive the necessity for a rigid adherence to the strictest rule, whereby a worthy Mason is deprived of all the rights and privileges of our sublime Order, even where he is able to comply literally with "all the requirements of the several degrees," as was the case brought to my attention, where a brother had lost a portion of his left hand. It is not my purpose to discuss this question at length, nor am I prepared to make any special recommendation for your guidance; but the thought suggests an earnest inquiry into the provisions of the law as now laid down in our Constitution, which might provoke an enlightened investigation of this subject, and failing to secure any relaxation of the present rule, bring to bear the reasons for its enactment and continuance as one of the fundamental requirements of our order.

We have always held that, where the applicant was able to perform all that the ceremonies of the several degrees required of him, he should be received. We can not agree with Comp. CARSON, of Ohio, that a man who has lost a limb may lawfully be made a Mason, for such an unfortunate can not comply with the requirements of the Order; but we are no believer in the doctrine of absolute physical perfection, although that is the law in this jurisdiction; and we are of the opinion that, in such cases as the one above cited, Masonry would receive no detriment by admitting the applicant. The committee to whom was referred the Address of the Grand High Priest reported upon the portion comprised in the foregoing extract as follows, and their report was adopted :

In reference to that portion of the Address which considers the physical qualification of applicants for the capitular degrees, your committee have been led to the inquiry, whether the subject considered is one which involves an ancient landmark, or is one of those general questions which is open to the ordinary regulations of Masonic policy. As a question of Masonic law, your committee do not believe that the rule now in force can be considered as an ancient and essential landmark, which is to be construed as forever immutable. On the contrary, they consider it a

question of Masonic polity, which may be properly modified by competent Masonic authority. Your committee, therefore, recommend the following as a substitute for Section 2, Chapter XX, of the Constitution :

"A Master Mason, who has become maimed in person, is not thereby absolutely disqualified from receiving the capitular degrees ; but, when the degree of injury or maiming is minutely and accurately reported to the *M. . E. .* Grand High Priest by the High Priest of the subordinate Chapter, if, in the judgment of the *M. . E. .* Grand High Priest, the injury or maiming does not essentially disqualify the applicant from conforming to the ceremonies and requirements of the Chapter, he may by dispensation authorize the subordinate Chapter to receive the petition of the applicant."

Measures were taken to improve the financial condition of the Grand Chapter and to insure a uniformity in the work.

Comp. AUGUSTINE T. SMYTHE again presented an able and interesting Report on Correspondence, in which he reviews the transactions of thirty Grand Chapters: California for 1872 receives fraternal notice. He speaks thus kindly of your reporter, for which he has our thanks :

Companion CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN presented one of the best and most readable Reports on Foreign Correspondence it has been our good fortune to meet with, and it has given us no little pleasure to linger over its pages. He reviews the proceedings of thirty-two Grand Chapters and the General Grand Chapter. He objects to Chapters being named after living persons ; to which we heartily assent. He, with us, objects to last year's address of Comp. KELLOGG, of Georgia, where Masonry is elevated too much to an equality with religion. South Carolina for 1871 is fully and fraternally noticed ; and while Comp. BIRNIE is congratulated on his advancement to the position of Deputy Grand High Priest, his loss to the reportorial corps is regretted.

We notice with regret that Comp. SMYTHE has retired both from the the Grand Secretaryship and from the Committee on Correspondence. His reports have been characterized by courtesy, fairness, and ability, and he manages to condense much that is interesting into a small space. The Grand Chapter, however, desired to bestow upon him higher honors and elected him Deputy Grand High Priest. We extend to him, as we did to Comp. BIRNIE last year, our fraternal congratulations.

The *M. . E. .* JAMES BIRNIE was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. . E. .* MYER B. MOSES was elected Grand Secretary. Address : Sumter.

TENNESSEE.

The Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Tennessee was held in the city of Nashville, commencing on the fifth day of November, 1873,—the *M. . E. .* JOSEPH M. ANDERSON, Deputy Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. . E. .* JOHN FRIZZELL being Grand Secretary. Ninety-one chartered Chapters and three under dispensation were represented at the opening.

The Address of the Grand High Priest—that officer being unavoidably absent—was read by the Grand Secretary. He congratulates the Craft on the peace and harmony which prevails, and render thanks to the Great I AM, for his bounteous mercy in sparing the companions generally from the deadly influence of the dire pestilence which has prevailed so extensively in that jurisdiction during the year.

He says, "it is a great source of pride to them, to learn with what promptness the Fraternity all over the State have stepped forward and extended their aid, and this has not been confined to their own borders, but Masons all over the country have nobly responded to the calls made upon them."

The Grand Secretary presents a Report on Correspondence. As a condenser he beats GOULEY hollow. His report occupies six pages, and simply quotes some of the decisions of the various Grand High Priests. In conclusion, Comp. FRIZZELL says :

In the mass of printed matter which has been received preparatory to making this report, a very large proportion is comprised of the reports of Committees on Foreign Correspondence, the perusal of which has afforded us much enjoyment, and we should take pleasure in falling in with the fashion in such cases, and reviewing the proceedings of each Grand Chapter separately, thus giving our report the usual length, if not the interest, for which these reports are generally remarkable, did we not feel

that our own enjoyment was not the proper guide in such matters, but rather the practical benefit to be derived by those for whom this work is performed.

In common with the companions of this jurisdiction, as well as those who had the pleasure of reading his reports, we express regret that our predecessor, Comp. GEORGE S. BLACKIE, has removed to another jurisdiction, and that we are thus deprived of his valuable labor in this department, yielding, as it always did, a rich harvest. May long life and prosperity attend him.

We would have preferred to have had Comp. FRIZZELL's opinion upon some of the decisions which he quotes, for it is only by discussing questions of jurisprudence, by an interchange of ideas, that we receive and impart information and arrive at just conclusions. But if Comp. FRIZZELL, and the companions of Tennessee generally, like that style of report, we can only regret it, and shall not quarrel with them.

We find from the statistical tables, that there are ninety-one Chapters in the jurisdiction, with an aggregate membership of 4168.

The *M.·. E.·.* JOSEPH M. ANDERSON was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R.·. E.·.* JOHN FRIZZELL was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address: Nashville.

VERMONT.

The Grand Chapter of Vermont assembled in Annual Convocation in the City of Burlington, on the thirteenth day of June, 1873,—the *M.·. E.·.* JOHN W. CLARK, Deputy Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R.·. E.·.* W. H. S. WHITCOMB being Grand Secretary. Twenty-four Chartered Chapters and one under dispensation were represented.

The Grand High Priest being absent from the jurisdiction, the Deputy Grand High Priest delivered a brief but good Address, replete with true masonic sentiments and sound moral teachings.

Representatives were received and greeted from the Grand Chapters of Connecticut and Minnesota.

The Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence failed to come to to time with his report, and it was ordered to be published with the Proceedings, but was not furnished in time and failed to appear. The same state of affairs existed last year, and we are satisfied that a little stirring up would do that committee no harm. A new Committee, however, was appointed, and we will hope for better luck next time. The *M.·. E.·.* JOHN W. CLARK was elected Grand High Priest, and *R.·. E.·.* W. H. S. WHITCOMB was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address: Burlington.

VIRGINIA.

The Grand Chapter of Virginia held its Annual Convocation in the city of Richmond on the twelfth day of December, 1872,—the *M.·. E.·.* ROBERT E. WITHERS, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R.·. E.·.* JOHN DOVE being Grand Secretary. Twenty-eight subordinate Chapters were represented at the opening.

The address of the Grand High Priest is almost exclusively confined to a resumé of the circumstances under which the Grand Chapter of West Virginia was formed. He says:

During my term of office I have been required to answer few interrogatories, or promulgate decisions on few questions of sufficient importance to require reporting to this Grand Body. From this fact alone, I deem myself justified in assuming that the several subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction are moving on smoothly and harmoniously in their great mission. The only subject requiring official notice is the action taken in reference to *Adoniram* Chapter, No. 34, Clarksville, West Virginia.

It appears that the Grand Chapter of Virginia, when giving her consent to the formation of the Grand Chapter of West Virginia, reserved her right of jurisdiction over two Chapters, at that time working under dispensation from her. The following resolution will explain the situation:

Resolved, That *Adoniram* and *Orient* Chapters, now under dispensation from this Grand Chapter, when their proceedings shall have been approved, and when they

would, under common circumstances, be chartered by this Grand Chapter, be advised to apply to the *M. E.* Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of West Virginia who is hereby requested, and, so far as we have authority, hereby authorized to issue Charters to said Chapters, now under dispensation, in the name of his own Grand Chapter.

Adoniram Chapter, desiring to remain under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Virginia, a charter was issued to her by that Grand Body, against which action the Grand Secretary of West Virginia protests.

We sincerely hope that the harmony now existing between these two Grand Bodies will not be disturbed by any question of jurisdiction, but that by mutual concession and understanding the *entente cordiale* may be preserved.

The committee to whom was referred the Address of the Grand High Priest, have, in our opinion, taken the correct view of the question, and we opine it would have been better for all concerned, had their report been adopted, instead of laying over until the next Annual Convocation.

The committee say in their report:

Adoniram Chapter is in the heart of West Virginia. Those exalted by her are the members of the Grand Lodge of West Virginia, and as such, that Chapter should be under the Chapter of West Virginia. We think the true principles of Masonry demand that we should do what we can for the peace and happiness of the whole Body. It will require of us a sacrifice, and all sacrifices are painful, and yet they are generally followed by great blessings, and we think such will be the case in the present instance. Our duty requires us to do what we can to help forward our sister of West Virginia, and to make her ways pleasant. So long as *Adoniram* Chapter remains under our jurisdiction, it will be a festering sore, and may give rise to very unpleasant feelings and acts between the two Grand Bodies. We, therefore, fully believe, and now most clearly recommend, that this Grand Chapter do now transfer *Adoniram* Chapter, No. 34, to the care and control of the Grand Chapter of West Virginia; and while it is unpleasant to turn from our household those who desire to remain members thereof, yet we well know that it is better that one suffer than that all should be injured, that we should transfer one member than to let that member be a cause of trouble and anxiety, in feeling at least, to another. We, therefore, offer the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That we fully approve and cordially endorse the act of the *M. E.* Grand High Priest, in chartering *Adoniram* Chapter during vacation.
2. *Resolved*, That *Adoniram* Chapter being in the bounds of the Grand Chapter of West Virginia, be and the same is hereby transferred to the care and control of that Grand Chapter; and that we now surrender all rights over her which have heretofore been vested in us.
3. *Resolved*, That *Adoniram* Chapter be and is hereby fully assured of the deep interest we have in her welfare, and of our desire to gratify her wish to remain a member of our family, and that we this day sever the connection only because we believe it to be best for them, for us, and for the Grand Chapter of West Virginia.
4. *Resolved*, That should *Adoniram* Chapter comply with our request and direction to surrender the charter which she has received of us, and take out a charter from West Virginia, she is hereby permitted to retain in her possession that charter, as a token of the sacrifice mutually made in the great cause of Masonic peace, and of our continued friendship and good-will toward her.

The Report on Correspondence was presented by the venerable Grand Secretary, Comp. JOHN DOVE, who, we believe, for nearly sixty years has been connected with the Grand Chapter of Virginia.

He reviews the proceedings of thirty-four Grand Chapters, confining himself almost entirely to extracts from the Addresses of the various Grand High Priests, commenting rarely, but giving such matters of interest, decisions, etc., as he thought would be of benefit to the Craft.

He is exceedingly severe on the quill-driving fraternity, and he says he finds in their reports, "a flippancy of style, wholly incompatible with the dignity of the subjects submitted for their investigation, and the overshadowing influence of the invaluable and inappreciable importance of the principles involved in our glorious Institution." We trust that some of these *flippant fellows* will take the hint and reform.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were re-elected. Address: Richmond.

WISCONSIN.

The Grand Chapter of Wisconsin assembled in Annual Convocation in the city of Milwaukee, commencing on the fourteenth day of January, 1873, the *M. E. C. F.* G. COLLINS, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E. W. T.* PALMER being Grand Secretary.

Forty-two subordinate Chapters were represented at the opening.

The Grand High Priest delivered an able and practical Address, filled with sound advice and admonition. We extract the following, which we fully indorse :

The relation of mere ritualism to the spirit and genius of Masonry is after all very much the relation of clothes to their wearer—he might cut rather a sorry figure in society without them, and yet they have but little part in his usefulness. We sometimes talk, rather grandiloquently perhaps, about making Masons, and we do go through certain forms and ceremonies which marks their reception into the fraternity, and I sometimes think when beset by some obtrusive book agent, clothed with Masonic jewelry as with a garment, who endeavors to make his Masonry induce you to subscribe for the matchless volume he peddles, or when I see our emblems emblazoned upon a saloon sign, that they are samples of man-made Masons, and that the Almighty had as little to do with their Masonry as with the religion of Dean Swift's convert who was drunk in the gutter.

Unless a candidate, by intuitive perception, or our elucidation while passing through the ceremonies, acquires some idea of the lessons their symbolisms are intended to inculcate, we do but little towards making him a Mason other than in name, and I sometimes think that Masons after all are like poets, born ; and that our making is simply a recognition of what the Great Creator had made them in the beginning.

We cannot too closely guard the avenues, or scan too carefully the qualifications of those who seek to be numbered with us. No man seeks to become a Mason without a motive. We cannot always determine what that motive is, but by a careful scrutiny of character, habits and antecedents, we may form a tolerably correct idea as to whether the desire for a knowledge of our mysteries springs from a desire for improvement and more extended usefulness, or whether it is the growth of mere curiosity, self-interest or mercenary motives.

While a careful study of our principles and teachings and an honest effort to live up to them must of necessity make any man better, Masonry is not a reformatory institution, and it is too true, as a general rule, that we have always sufficient room for work in that direction with those who are already of the household, to preclude the necessity of adding any such to our numbers, simply for the purpose of trying the experiment as to whether a good Mason cannot be made out of an indifferently bad man. No man possesses the inherent right to become a Mason, and we are certainly privileged to require, nay more, it is our imperative duty to demand that our candidates shall bring to us something of moral worth and position in society ; something of settled principles and solid attainments that in the world of worth shall possess a sterling value.

The sum of two hundred dollars was appropriated for the relief of an aged companion ; an act which shows that the hearts of our companions of Wisconsin are filled with the true spirit of Masonry.

Comp. J. P. U. COTTRILL presents an able and interesting Report on Correspondence. He reviews the transactions of twenty-eight Grand Chapters, and also gives a brief notice of the transactions of the Grand Chapters of England and Wales, and Ireland and Scotland. California for 1872, is courteously and fraternally noticed. He agrees fully with Comp. ENGLISH relative to the use of substitutes ; and our report of that year appears to have pleased him somewhat, if we may judge by the following :

The correspondence report is from the new Grand Secretary, Companion WIGGIN ; it follows immediately the address in the body of the proceedings, and is not consigned ignominiously to an appendix. Comp. CORSON says that the rear is the place of honor—and thus justifies and feels proud apparently of being hitched on to the tail. It is doubtless so at funerals, and other similar jolly gatherings, but after all we think that CORSON meant to say that the rear was a place of safety instead of a post of honor ; and the reason, probably, why he didn't go to the late war was, that he couldn't be a major general, and so be always behind. This report is very able,

very funny, very excellent. It shook us very nearly into original fragments when we read and especially when we re-read it. Our diaphragm changed places with our mouth, our clavicles went down among the region of our ankles; we were generally overwhelmed. CONSON, you must take the back seat, and the title of "irreverent joker" must pass from the man of New Jersey to him of California. How we laughed, how we roared, how we wish, companions, we could give it to you entire.

We are delighted that our first effort met the approval of our companion of Wisconsin; but we regret exceedingly that it should so greatly have deranged his anatomical structure, and we trust that he has long ere this shaken himself together, and that his demoralized members have resumed their normal condition.

Comp. COTTRILL fully indorses our ideas relative to Chapters under dispensation, and also with reference to an objection made to a candidate after election.

In his review of Maine he takes issue with Comp. DRUMMOND upon a question now pending before our Grand Chapter, and which was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence last year. He says:

Comp. DRUMMOND argues against us, that while expulsion in the Lodge works *ipso facto* expulsion in the Chapter, yet restoration in the former has no effect in the latter. Our position last year was, and this year is, as we have before stated in this report, that when the Chapter cuts off a member upon simply recording the Lodge action, that restoration in the Lodge should obliterate the Chapter record, and leave the Chapter member as if it had not been made. We then said: "there was no action of the higher body in removing beyond a record made of the facts below; why, in restoring, should there be further action in the higher body beyond again making a record of the facts below?" If the Chapter disciplines upon independent action and upon charges preferred, no Lodge action, we concede, can alter or affect its acts. But if the Chapter cuts a member off on a mere certificate, and with no proof beyond, of what the Lodge has done, can it justly do that and at the same time refuse to make reparation on a certificate of the Lodge that it has made it! We believe that it cannot; and though on restoration of the foundation, the superstructure ordinarily does not tumble back, as Comp. DRUMMOND puts it, yet when the whole structure and foundation are so bolted, jointed and girded together, that all falls upon turning over the latter; we cannot see why the righting of it should not again bring both back into plumb.

We are of the opinion that Comp. COTTRILL has the correct idea, and have always argued that the cause of exclusion from the Chapter having been removed by the Lodge, that act should restore the companion to his former standing in the Chapter. The report is one of the best we have had before us, and we would gladly follow Comp. COTTRILL further, but time is wanting.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were re-elected. Address: Milwaukee.

CONCLUSION.

Once more we have finished our pleasant task, and for another twelvemonth take a reluctant leave of our genial companions of the reportorial corps. The hours we have passed in figurative intercourse with them have indeed been pleasant ones, albeit they were filched from the time usually devoted to the embraces of Morpheus. The kindly words of encouragement and commendation which have greeted our former efforts have strengthened and stimulated us in our work, and often with weary hand and heavy eyelids, we have toiled on, sustained by the consciousness of the approval and appreciation of our companions, until the smiles of Aurora illuminated our *sanctum* and warned us to seek refreshment in brief repose before commencing the active duties of the day. In the reports which have come before us for review, we have found much that was instructive as well as pleasing, and we have often wished that every Royal Arch Mason might enjoy the privilege accorded to us, of perusing at length the views and opinions of the bright and shining lights of the Order. We can give them at best but a brief synopsis of the proceedings of other jurisdictions,

and comparatively few obtain access, even to our meager reports. We have endeavored to select from the transactions of our sister Grand Chapters, those portions which in our judgment would prove most interesting and instructive to the general reader; and if our companions will but read our published proceedings carefully and intelligently, they will acquire much valuable information, which they can obtain in no other way so readily.

We congratulate our companions upon the general prosperity of the Craft upon this continent. Peace, harmony, and good will reign supreme, and an evident determination is manifested in all the Grand Jurisdictions to employ none but sound material in the erection of the temple, and to plant the Royal Arch banner so high, that he who would reach it must free himself from the weight of vice and immorality and strive to attain that moral perfection indicated by the teachings of the Order. To our brother reporters who have treated us with so much kindness and consideration, we can only say that our heart warms towards you with brotherly love and affection, and we sincerely trust that our future intercourse may be attended with that courtesy, forbearance, and good will which has characterized it in the past.

Respectfully submitted.

CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,

For the Committee.

Which report was ordered to be printed with the proceedings.

On motion of Comp. WILKINS, the Grand Lecturer was requested to exemplify the work in the Royal Arch degree, this evening, at half past 7 o'clock.

The Grand Chapter was then called off until two o'clock this afternoon.

In Grand Chapter.

AFTERNOON SESSION,
Tuesday, April 14th, A. I. 2404. }

The Grand Chapter was called on at two o'clock, the Grand High Priest presiding.

The minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

The Grand High Priest announced the following committees :

On Finances :

Comp. Hiram Throop Graves,
" Henry Sayre Orme,
" George Fayette Mallett,
" Jacob Hart Neff,
" Alvin Bacon Preston.

On Returns :

Comp. Charles Louis Wiggin,
" Albert Frederick Knorp,
" Andrew Henderson Broder,
" Robert Aitken,
" Timothy Sage.

On Charters :

Comp. John William Harville,
 " Edward Richard Hedges,
 " Thomas Allen Brown,
 " Thatcher Peter Wales,
 " William Monroe Petrie.

On Grievances :

Comp. William Sewall Wells,
 " Edward Taylor Wilkins,
 " Wiley James Tinnin,
 " John Murray Brown,
 " James Martin Rodgers.

On By-Laws :

Comp. John Mills Browne,
 " John Dodd Skinner,
 " John Ambrose Seely,
 " Thomas Callow,
 " Olo Christian Christiansen.

On Payment of Delegates :

Comp. Alexander Chalmers,
 " Louis Wellendorff,
 " Samuel Prager,
 " Henry Hay Knapp,
 " Reuben Leech.

The Grand Secretary presented his Annual Report, as follows:

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of California :

The undersigned respectfully presents the following report of the transactions of the Grand Secretary's office during the year ending January 31st, 1874.

Within thirty days after the close of the last Annual Convocation, the proceedings thereat were printed and the usual number was distributed to the various Chapters, to the Grand and Past Grand Officers, and transmitted to all the Grand Chapters with which we are in communication.

In accordance with the vote of the Grand Chapter, on the ninth day of April, 1873, charters were issued to *Visalia* Chapter, No. 44, at Visalia, Tulare County; *Santa Rosa* Chapter, No. 45, at Santa Rosa, Sonoma County; and *Woodland* Chapter, No. 46, at Woodland, Yolo County; and on the twelfth day of April, 1873, authorizations were issued by the M. E. Grand High Priest to the M. E. THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL, Past Grand High Priest, to constitute *Santa Rosa* and *Woodland* Chapters, and to the R. E. CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN to constitute *Visalia* Chapter; which authorizations were in due time returned with the reports of the companions therein named, that the aforesaid Chapters had been constituted in form and their officers duly installed.

Special dispensations have been issued as follows: on the twenty-seventh day of December, 1873, to *Oliver* Chapter, No. 23, to hold an election of officers at a time other than that prescribed by the Constitution, they having been prevented from holding their election at the proper time by reason of violent storms which rendered the roads impassable; also on the ninth day of February, 1874, to *Calaveras* Chapter, No. 12, for the same purpose and for like reasons.

The charter of *Quincy* Chapter, No. 32, having been revoked at the last Annual Convocation, I wrote to Comp. JOHN D. GOODWIN, late High Priest, and to Comp. T. F. HERSEY, late Secretary of said Chapter, asking them to settle up its affairs and to transmit its charter, books, property, and funds to my office. Comp. HERSEY gave his attention to the matter and forwarded the charter, books, and the sum of one hundred and twenty-five dollars (\$125 00), in coin, stating that the Chapter had no other property worth considering. The money has been placed with the funds of the Grand Chapter.

The following is a statement of the financial transactions of the Grand Secretary for the past year :

The Grand Secretary in account with the Grand Chapter of California, for the year ending January 31st, 1874.

RECEIPTS.

<i>San Francisco Chapter, No. 1, dues in full to Jan. 31st, 1874,</i>	<i>\$272 00</i>
<i>Sonora " " 2, " " " "</i>	<i>90 00</i>
<i>Sacramento " " 3, " " " "</i>	<i>303 50</i>
<i>California " " 5, " " " "</i>	<i>436 00</i>
<i>Nevada " " 6, " " " "</i>	<i>125 00</i>
<i>Shasta " " 9, " " " "</i>	<i>67 50</i>
<i>Sutter " " 11, " " " "</i>	<i>91 50</i>
<i>Calaveras " " 12, " " " "</i>	<i>48 00</i>
<i>Washington " " 13, " " " "</i>	<i>177 50</i>
<i>Howard " " 14, " " " "</i>	<i>150 50</i>
<i>Cyrus " " 15, " " " "</i>	<i>75 00</i>
<i>Libanus " " 17, " " " "</i>	<i>47 00</i>
<i>Grass Valley " " 18, " " " "</i>	<i>137 50</i>
<i>Trinity " " 19, " " " "</i>	<i>25 50</i>
<i>Franklin " " 20, " " " "</i>	<i>81 50</i>
<i>Petaluma " " 22, " " " "</i>	<i>81 50</i>
<i>Oliver " " 23, " " " "</i>	<i>51 00</i>
<i>La Fayette " " 24, " " " "</i>	<i>33 50</i>
<i>Georgetown " " 25, " " " "</i>	<i>59 00</i>
<i>Stockton " " 28, " " " "</i>	<i>157 00</i>
<i>Napa " " 30, " " " "</i>	<i>52 50</i>
<i>Martinez " " 31, " " " "</i>	<i>48 50</i>
<i>Los Angeles " " 33, " " " "</i>	<i>104 00</i>
<i>Alturas " " 34, " " " "</i>	<i>66 00</i>
<i>Naval " " 35, " " " "</i>	<i>107 00</i>
<i>Alameda " " 36, " " " "</i>	<i>172 00</i>
<i>Siloam " " 37, " " " "</i>	<i>72 50</i>
<i>Santa Cruz " " 38, " " " "</i>	<i>73 50</i>
<i>Red Bluff " " 40, " " " "</i>	<i>73 50</i>
<i>Temple " " 41, " " " "</i>	<i>52 50</i>
<i>Ohio " " 42, " " " "</i>	<i>95 50</i>
<i>Solano " " 43, " " " "</i>	<i>101 50</i>
<i>Visalia " " 44, " " " "</i>	<i>57 50</i>
<i>" " " 44, fee for charter,</i>	<i>50 00</i>
<i>Santa Rosa " " 45, dues in full to Jan. 31st, 1874,</i>	<i>98 50</i>
<i>" " " 45, fee for charter,</i>	<i>50 00</i>
<i>Woodland " " 46, dues in full to Jan. 31st, 1874,</i>	<i>158 00</i>
<i>" " " 46, fee for charter,</i>	<i>50 00</i>
<i>Received for sixteen diplomas,</i>	<i>32 00</i>
<i>Received for twenty bound volumes proceedings,</i>	<i>40 00</i>
<i>Received for two special dispensations,</i>	<i>10 00</i>
<i>Received from late Quincy Chapter, No. 32,</i>	<i>125 00</i>

Making a total of.*\$3936 50*

All of which has been paid to the Grand Treasurer, as per his receipt herewith submitted. The books, vouchers for orders drawn upon the Grand Treasurer, letter-books, and papers of the Grand Secretary's office are also presented for examination.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,

Grand Secretary.

Which report was referred to the Committee on Finances.

The Grand Treasurer presented his Annual Report, as follows :

The Grand Treasurer in account with the Grand Chapter of California.

1873.

DR.

April 8. To balance in treasury, this date,.....\$5140 56

1874.

April 14. To cash received from Grand Secretary,.....3936 50 \$9077 06

1873.

CR.

April 10. Paid delegates in attendance at the Annual Convoca-
tion, as per pay roll,..... \$960 60

" 10. " Grand Officers, do do do 99 80

" 14. " Samuel D. Mayer for services as Grand Organist,
as per voucher No. 1,..... 25 00

" 14. " Ira C. Root for services as Grand Guard, as per
voucher No. 2,..... 25 00

" 28. " Payot, Upham & Co., stationery, as per voucher
No. 3,..... 19 75

May 1. " Charles L. Wiggin, Grand Secretary, salary for
April, as per voucher No. 4,..... 100 00

" 15. " Chas. L. Wiggin, postage stamps, as per voucher
No. 5,..... 25 00

" 15. " Frank Eastman, printing, as per voucher No. 6,... 612 16

June 1. " Charles L. Wiggin, Grand Secretary, salary for
May, as per voucher No. 7,..... 100 00

" 5. " S. W. Shaw, painting portrait of Past Grand High
Priest J. H. Neff, as per voucher No. 8,..... 75 00

" 10. " Alexander G. Abell, Pres't, rent of Grand Secre-
tary's office to Dec. 31, 1873, voucher No. 9,... 800 00

July 2. " Charles L. Wiggin, Grand Secretary, salary for
June, as per voucher No. 10,..... 100 00

" 21. " Charles L. Wiggin, Grand Secretary, dues to Gen-
eral Grand Chapter, as per voucher No. 11,.... 21 61

Aug. 4. " Charles L. Wiggin, Grand Secretary, salary for
July, as per voucher No. 12, 100 00

Sept. 5. " Charles L. Wiggin, Grand Secretary, salary for
August, as per voucher No. 13,..... 100 00

Oct. 6. " Charles L. Wiggin, Grand Secretary, salary for
September, as per voucher No. 14,..... 100 00

Nov. 1. " Charles L. Wiggin, Grand Secretary, salary for
October, as per voucher No. 15,..... 100 00

Dec. 2. " Charles L. Wiggin, Grand Secretary, salary for
November, as per voucher No. 16,..... 100 00

1874.

Jan. 19. " Frank Eastman, printing, as per voucher No. 17, 26 00

" 19. " Charles L. Wiggin, Grand Secretary, salary for
December, as per voucher No. 18,..... 100 00

Feb. 1. " Charles L. Wiggin, Grand Secretary, salary for
January, as per voucher No. 19,..... 100 00

May 9. " Downing & Mason, cleaning and lettering portraits
of P. G. H. P., as per voucher No. 20,..... 22 50

Amount carried forward,.....\$3,212 42 \$9077 06

Amount brought forward,.....\$3,212 42 \$9077 06

1874.

April 1. Paid Charles L. Wiggin, expenses of Grand Secretary's
office, as per voucher No. 21..... 50 00
" 1. " Charles L. Wiggin, dues to General Grand Chap-
ter, as per voucher No. 22,..... 21 61
" 1. " Charles L. Wiggin, Grand Secretary, salary for
February and March, as per voucher No. 23,... 200 00

\$3,484 03

Ap'l 14. " To balance in treasury this date,.....\$5,598 03
\$9,077 06

1874.

Ap'l 14. " Balance in treasury,.....\$5,598 03

Also, one hundred and fifty shares of the capital stock of the Masonic Hall
Association.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOSEPH B. SCOTCHLER,
Grand Treasurer.

Which report was referred to the Committee on Finances.

Comp. JOHN WILLIAM HARVILLE, from the special committee to
whom was referred the Address of the Grand High Priest, presented
the following report :

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California :

Your committee, to whom was referred the Address of the M.: E.: Grand High
Priest, have carefully examined that very interesting and instructive paper, and earn-
estly urge the companions present to cause it to be carefully studied by all Royal
Arch Masons in this jurisdiction. We recommend that the several subjects alluded
to, be referred as follows :

So much thereof as relates to the death of the R.: E.: Deputy Grand High Priest
JOSEPH ISAACS, to a special committee of three ;

So much thereof as relates to the recognition of the Grand Chapter of West Vir-
ginia, to the removal of *Calaveras* Chapter, No. 12, and to the question of juris-
dictional rights of subordinate Chapters, to the Committee on Jurisprudence ;

So much thereof as relates to the granting of dispensations and the constitution
of Chapters, to the Committee on Charters ;

So much thereof as relates to the amendments of By-Laws, to the Committee on
By-Laws ; and so much thereof as relates to the subject of physical qualifications, to
a special committee of five.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN WM. HARVILLE, }
JACOB HART NEFF, } Committee.
N. W. SPAULDING. }

Which report was concurred in.

The Grand High Priest announced the appointment of the follow-
ing special committees :

On the death of Comp. Isaacs :..... { Alex. Gurdon Abell,
John Kirkpatrick,
Stephen Wing.

On Physical Qualifications :..... { John William Harville,
John Mills Browne,
Jacob Hart Neff,
George Heirn Gilbert,
Thomas Callow.

Comp. WILLIAM THOMAS REYNOLDS, from the Committee on Jurisprudence, presented the following reports :

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of California :

Your Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred that portion of the Grand High Priest's Address relative to the removal of *Calaveras* Chapter, No. 12, from Snelling to the town of Merced, the present county seat of Merced County, have carefully considered the same, and respectfully report, that they find the action of the Grand High Priest in authorizing such removal to be eminently proper and consistent with former action in such cases, taken upon due notice and by the unanimous request of the Chapter desiring the change of location. We therefore respectfully submit the following resolution, and recommend its adoption :

Resolved, That the action of the M. E. Grand High Priest, in authorizing the removal of *Calaveras* Chapter, No. 12, from Snelling, in the County of Merced, to the town of Merced in said county, be and the same is hereby approved and confirmed.

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of California :

Your Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred the question presented at our last Annual Convocation, by Comp. CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, viz: "does the restoration of a member of a Lodge, after suspension, restore him in the Chapter?" having carefully considered the same, beg leave to submit the following report:

Our Constitution provides that no one can become a Royal Arch Mason unless he is a Master Mason in good standing, (see Art. XVII, Sec. 4,) and by implication it was held that he must continue in like good standing, to maintain his membership in a Chapter; but as some doubts arose on the subject, General Regulation No. 5 was adopted, which declares that "no Masonic communication shall be held with a Royal Arch Mason who stands suspended as a Master Mason for any cause."

The Lodge is the foundation of all Masonry, and it is eminently proper that a person who is considered unworthy to participate in the rights and privileges of the symbolic degrees, should be refused admission among Royal Arch Masons.

Our laws delegate to the Lodge the power to deprive any companion of his rights as a Royal Arch Mason; and this being an established fact, your committee are of the opinion that the converse of the proposition should be accepted. If we allow the Lodge to suspend a companion, we should certainly permit it to restore him again when the cause of his suspension has been removed. We therefore submit the following resolution and recommend its adoption:

Resolved, That the restoration to good standing by a Lodge of any companion who has been suspended by it for any cause, and where no action has been had in his case directly by the Chapter, restores him to good standing in the Chapter.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM THOMAS REYNOLDS,	} Committee.
JOHN WILLIAM HARVILLE,	
JACOB HART NEFF,	
WILLIAM SEWALL WELLS,	
HENRY SAYRE ORME,	

Which reports were concurred in, and the resolutions accompanying them were adopted.

Comp. CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN presented his credentials, as representative of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Canada, and, on motion, Comp. WIGGIN was received and accredited in that capacity.

Comp. WILEY JAMES TINNIN presented the dispensation issued October, 24th 1872, to certain companions to form *Mount Carmel Chapter*, stating that, owing to sundry adverse circumstances, the Chapter had never been organized. He also submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the sum of ninety dollars, heretofore paid for a dispensation to form *Mount Carmel Chapter*, be returned to the companions who paid the same.

Which resolution was referred to the Committee on Finances.

On motion of Comp. WILLIAM SEWALL WELLS, the election of Grand Officers was made the special order for 2 o'clock P. M. to-morrow.

Comp. WILLIAM THOMAS REYNOLDS offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the resolution offered by Comp. CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN at the last Annual Convocation relative to the restoration of Comp. GEO. W. BABCOCK, be now adopted, and, upon payment of such amount as he may be able to pay, the Grand Secretary be instructed to give him a receipt and dimit.

Which resolution was adopted.

The Grand Chapter was then called off until 7½ o'clock this evening.

In Grand Chapter.

EVENING SESSION,
Tuesday, April 14th, A. I. 2404. }

The Grand Chapter was called on at 7½ o'clock, the Grand High Priest presiding.

The work in the Royal Arch degree was exemplified by the Grand Lecturer.

The Grand Chapter was then called off until 11 o'clock to-morrow morning.

In Grand Chapter.

MORNING SESSION,
Wednesday, April 15th, A. I. 2404. }

The Grand Chapter was called on at 11 o'clock, the Grand High Priest presiding.

The minutes of the sessions of yesterday afternoon and evening were read and approved.

Comp. WILLIAM THOMAS REYNOLDS, from the Committee on Jurisprudence, presented the following reports :

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California :

In the matter of the recognition by this Grand Chapter of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, which was referred to your committee at our last Annual Convocation, we beg leave to report that, after a careful examination of all the circumstances attending the organization of the new Grand Body, and a full investigation of its proceedings since its formation, your committee can see no good reason why we should not extend to our younger sister the right hand of fellowship and gladly receive her as a welcome addition to the harmonious family of American Grand Chapters.

The only reason given by the mother Grand Chapter of Scotland for refusing recognition to the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, seems to be that that venerable Body—in the plenitude of its wealth, and justly proud of its strength and power, forgetting its own early struggles with poverty, and the time when it, too, was young and feeble—thinks that our Nova Scotia companions lack the pecuniary and numerical strength to warrant them in undertaking the maintenance of an independent organization.

Your committee can not indorse this view of the case. As Americans we are all, both from habit and conviction, of the opinion that “home rule is the best ;” and we fully believe that the interests of Royal Arch Masonry in the Province of Nova Scotia will be better promoted by the various Chapters being under the control of a Grand Body whose officers are chosen from among resident companions, well known to the Craft in that jurisdiction, in whom they have confidence, whose advice and admonitions will be received with respect, and who will always be at hand to counsel and guide in time of need. Entertaining these views, your committee respectfully submit the following resolution and recommend its adoption :

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter of California gladly recognizes the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia as a legitimate, independent Grand Chapter, and that we offer to our younger sister the assurance of our sincere desire for her future welfare and prosperity.

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California :

Your Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred that portion of the address of the M.: E.: Grand High Priest relative to the complaint of *Natal* Chapter, No. 35, against *Solano* Chapter, No. 43, for an alleged violation of its jurisdictional rights in conferring the degrees upon Comp. J. F. WENDELL, having duly considered the subject, beg leave to report that, in their opinion, the constitutional provision, requiring a residence of six months continuously within the jurisdiction of a subordinate Chapter before application can be made to that Chapter to receive the degrees of Royal Arch Masonry was fully complied with in the case under consideration. Unlike many other county officers who have a nominal residence at their respective county seats, while all their time not occupied by their official duties is spent with their families in some other portion of the county, Comp. WENDELL seems to have complied, not only with the letter, but with the true intent and meaning of our State law, and to have made Fairfield his actual home, for a far longer period than our Constitution requires, before he applied to *Solano* Chapter to receive the degrees. We think the decision of our Grand High Priest in the premises correct, and recommend that it be approved by the Grand Chapter.

Comp. WILLIAM SEWALL WELLS, from the same Committee, submitted the following report :

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California :

Your Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred that portion of the M.: E.: Grand High Priest's Address relative to the recognition by this Grand Chapter of

the Grand Chapter of West Virginia, have carefully considered the same and respectfully report: That the new Grand Body was established with the full consent of the Mother Grand Chapter of Virginia and with her heartiest wishes for its success and prosperity. This being the case, it only remains for us to gladly extend to our new sister the right hand of fellowship, and acknowledge her as an independent organization. We therefore submit the following resolution, and recommend its adoption:

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter of the State of California cheerfully recognizes the Grand Chapter of West Virginia as an independent Grand Chapter, and confidently trusts that she will become a bright and shining light in the constellation of American Masonic Grand Bodies.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM THOMAS REYNOLDS,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
JOHN W. HARVILLE,		
JACOB H. NEFF,		
WILLIAM S. WELLS,		
HENRY S. ORME,		

Which reports were all concurred in, and the accompanying resolutions were unanimously adopted.

The Grand Secretary presented the credentials of Comp. CHARLES MARSH, as representative of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, and, on motion, Comp. MARSH was received and accredited in that capacity.

The Grand High Priest warmly welcomed Comp. MARSH as the representative of our sister of Nova Scotia, and expressed the hope that the future relations between the two Grand Bodies would be such as to afford mutual pleasure and satisfaction.

Comp. MARSH made an eloquent and appropriate reply, rehearsing the history of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia from its organization, explaining the difficulty between it and the Grand Chapter of Scotland, warmly eulogizing the dignity, forbearance, and Masonic courtesy which had characterized all the proceedings of the new Grand Chapter in the embarrassing situation in which it had been placed, and expressing the belief that this new star in the Masonic firmament would continue to shine with undimmed lustre, and shed its beneficent rays in bright refulgence upon the pathway of all those who seek more light within its jurisdiction.

Comp. JOHN MILLS BROWNE, from the Committee on By-Laws, presented the following report:

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of California:

Your committee, to whom were referred the amendments to the By-Laws of *Oliver* Chapter, No. 23, *Manzanita* Chapter, No. 29, *Naval* Chapter, No. 35, *Donner* Chapter, No. 39, *Visalia* Chapter, No. 44, approved by the M. E. Grand High Priest, respectfully report, that they have examined the same, and find they relate to time of meeting, fees and dues, that all conform to the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, and would recommend that they be approved.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN M. BROWNE,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
JOHN D. SKINNER,		
JOHN A. SEELY,		
THOMAS CALLOW,		
OLO C. CHRISTIANSEN,		

Which report was concurred in.

Comp. CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, from the Committee on Returns, presented the following report :

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California :

The undersigned respectfully report that returns from the following Chapters have been received, and, although many errors have occurred—occasioned in most instances by the inexperience of newly elected Secretaries—yet these errors have been promptly corrected by the various Secretaries when notified by the Grand Secretary of their existence. The dues of each are set opposite their respective names :

		Gen. Fund.	Rep. Fund.	Total.
<i>San Francisco</i> , No. 1,.....		\$208 00	\$ 64 00	\$272 00
<i>Sonora</i> , " 2,.....		64 00	26 00	90 00
<i>Sacramento</i> , " 3,.....		227 00	76 50	303 50
<i>California</i> , " 5,.....		317 00	119 00	436 00
<i>Nevada</i> , " 6,.....		97 00	28 00	125 00
<i>Benicia</i> , " 7,.....		26 00	13 00	39 00
<i>Shasta</i> , " 9,.....		45 00	22 50	67 50
<i>Sutter</i> , " 11,.....		63 00	28 50	91 50
<i>Calaveras</i> , " 12,.....		32 00	16 00	48 00
<i>Washington</i> , " 13,.....		128 00	49 50	177 50
<i>Howard</i> , " 14,.....		110 00	40 50	150 50
<i>Cyrus</i> , " 15,.....		55 00	20 00	75 00
<i>Saint James</i> , " 16,.....		47 00	18 00	65 00
<i>Libanus</i> , " 17,.....		33 00	14 00	47 00
<i>Grass Valley</i> , " 18,....		101 00	36 50	137 50
<i>Trinity</i> , " 19,.....		17 00	8 50	25 50
<i>Franklin</i> , " 20,.....		61 00	20 50	81 50
<i>Sierra</i> , " 21,.....		62 00	21 00	83 00
<i>Petaluma</i> , " 22,.....		58 00	23 50	81 50
<i>Oliver</i> , " 23,.....		34 00	17 00	51 00
<i>La Fayette</i> , " 24,.....		24 00	9 50	33 50
<i>Georgetown</i> , " 25,		41 00	18 00	59 00
<i>Oakland</i> , " 26,.....		101 00	31 00	132 00
<i>Delta</i> , " 27,.....		23 00	11 00	34 00
<i>Stockton</i> , " 28,.....		117 00	40 00	157 00
<i>Manzanita</i> , " 29,.....		76 00	27 00	103 00
<i>Napa</i> , " 30,.....		35 00	17 50	52 50
<i>Martinez</i> , " 31,.....		33 00	15 50	48 50
<i>Los Angeles</i> , " 33,		72 00	32 00	104 00
<i>Alturas</i> , " 34,.....		49 00	17 00	66 00
<i>Naval</i> , " 35,.....		76 00	31 00	107 00
<i>Alameda</i> , " 36,.....		131 50	40 50	172 00
<i>Siloam</i> , " 37,.....		55 00	17 50	72 50
<i>Santa Cruz</i> , " 38,.....		55 00	18 50	73 50
<i>Donner</i> , " 39,.....		51 00	18 50	69 50
<i>Red Bluff</i> , " 40,.....		56 00	17 50	73 50
<i>Temple</i> , " 41,.....		35 00	17 50	52 50
<i>Chico</i> , " 42,.....		69 00	26 50	95 50
<i>Solano</i> , " 43,.....		85 00	16 50	101 50
<i>Visalia</i> , " 44,.....		43 00	14 50	57 50
<i>Santa Rosa</i> , " 45,.....		83 00	15 50	98 50
<i>Woodland</i> , " 46,....		138 00	20 00	158 00
Making a total of.....		\$3233 50	\$1135 00	\$3589 50

Your committee present the following statement, showing the comparative membership of the Chapters in existence :

Of those having two hundred members or more, there is but one, viz : No. 5.

Of those having one hundred and fifty, and less than two hundred, there is but one, viz : No. 3.

Of those having one hundred, and less than one hundred and fifty, there is but one, viz. : No. 1.

Of those having seventy-five, and less than one hundred, there are four, viz : Nos. 13, 14, 28, 36.

Of those having fifty, and less than seventy-five, there are nine, viz : Nos. 2, 6, 11, 18, 26, 29, 33, 35, and 42.

Of those having thirty, and less than fifty, there are twenty, viz : Nos. 9, 12, 15, 16, 20, 21, 23, 25, 30, 31, 34, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 43, 45, 46.

Of those having twenty, and less than thirty, there are four, viz : Nos. 7, 17, 27, and 44.

Of those having fifteen, and less than twenty, there are two, viz : Nos. 19, and 24, Seven Chapters, being Nos. 7, 9, 12, 19, 26, 30, and 41, have conferred no degrees during the year.

One Chapter, No. 27, has conferred but one degree during the year.

One Chapter, No. 31, has conferred but two degrees during the year.

All which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,	} Committee.
ALBERT F. KNORP,	
ANDREW H. BRODER,	
ROBERT AITKEN,	
TIMOTHY SAGE,	

Which report was concurred in.

Comp. ALBERT F. KNORP offered the following amendment to the Constitution :

To amend Sec. 1. Art. XIV. by inserting in the seventh line after the word "nearest," the words "or most convenient to," so that the sentence shall read as follows :
 " But no such dispensation shall issue, unless the petition be accompanied by a recommendation from the chartered Chapter nearest or most convenient to the location of the proposed new one."

Which amendment was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

Comp. JOHN W. HARVILLE, from the special Committee on Physical Qualifications of Candidates, made a verbal report, recommending that the rule as adopted by the Grand Lodge be adhered to by the Grand Chapter.

After a lengthy discussion, Comp. CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN offered the following resolution as a substitute for the report of the Committee :

Resolved, That the limit of physical qualifications to be required of a candidate for the degrees conferred by a Royal Arch Chapter under this jurisdiction, shall be simply that he be enabled to conform strictly to all which the ritual in those degrees makes necessary.

Which resolution was adopted by a vote of forty-eight in the affirmative to six in the negative.

The *M.: E.:* JOHN DUNBAR CREIGH, second Grand High Priest, was received with Grand Honors, and welcomed to his seat in the Grand Chapter.

Comp. WILLIAM THOMPSON LUTHER, High Priest of *Sierra* Chapter, No. 21, presented a complaint against *Alameda* Chapter, No. 36, for an alleged violation of its jurisdictional rights, in conferring the degree of Mark Master upon Bro. NICHOLAS CHENHALL.

Which complaint was referred to the Committee on Grievances.

On motion of Comp. WILEY JAMES TINNIN, all delegates who were not present at the session of yesterday were excused for non-attendance.

The Grand Chapter was then called off until half-past one o'clock this afternoon.

In Grand Chapter.

AFTERNOON SESSION,
Wednesday, April 15, A. I. 2404. }

The Grand Chapter was called on at half-past one o'clock, the Grand High Priest presiding.

The minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

Comp. WILLIAM SEWALL WELLS, from the Committee on Grievances, presented the following report:—

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California:

Your Committee on Grievances, to whom was referred the complaint of the High Priest of *Sierra* Chapter, No. 21, against *Alameda* Chapter, No. 36, regarding an invasion of their jurisdiction, by conferring the degree of Mark Master upon Bro. NICHOLAS CHENHALL, have had the same under consideration, and respectfully report that Bro. CHENHALL received the degree of Mark Master in *Alameda* Chapter, No. 36, on the 11th day of December, 1873; but the essential facts relating to the question of jurisdiction, and which induced the action of *Alameda* Chapter, are not before your committee, and at this stage of the session can not be procured in season for our action. We deem it proper also, that Bro. CHENHALL should have an opportunity to be heard; and inasmuch as the course proposed receives the assent of the representatives of the Chapters respectively interested, we recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to notify Bro. CHENHALL of this complaint, and that his statement, together with any evidence adduced by *Sierra* and *Alameda* Chapters in respect thereto, be referred to the incoming Grand High Priest for his adjudication.

All which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM S. WELLS, WILEY J. TINNIN, JOHN M. BROWN, EDWARD T. WILKINS, JAMES MARTIN RODGERS,	}	Committee.
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Which report was concurred in and the accompanying resolution was adopted.

Comp. WILLIAM T. REYNOLDS, from the Committee on Jurisprudence, presented the following report :

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California :

Your committee, to whom was referred the proposed amendment to the Constitution amending Art. XIV, Sec. 1, by inserting the words, "or most convenient to," after the word "nearest," in the seventh line, beg leave to report that it was the intention of the Grand Chapter at the time its present Constitution was adopted, to make the instrument accord as nearly as possible with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, so that the officers of Chapters, who are in almost every instance either past or present officers of Lodges, might find no conflicting regulations to confuse their minds when suddenly called upon to render a decision on any constitutional point. The words now sought to be inserted make our Constitution agree with the Regulations of the Grand Lodge on the same subject, and your committee recommend the adoption of the amendment.

All which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM T. REYNOLDS, JOHN W. HARVILLE, JACOB H. NEFF, WILLIAM S. WELLS, HENRY S. ORME,	}	Committee.
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Which report was concurred in.

Comp. ALEX. G. ABELL, from the special committee to whom was referred that portion of the Address of the M.: E.: Grand High Priest relative to the death of R.: E.: Comp. JOSEPH ISAACS, Deputy Grand High Priest, presented the following report :

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California :

Your committee, to whom was referred that portion of the Address of the Grand High Priest which relates to the decease of our late friend and companion, JOSEPH ISAACS, beg leave to offer the following report :

Little need be added to that which has been so well and so kindly said by our Chief Officer. Urbane and quiet in his deportment to all, fast and endearing in his friendships, and harboring no lasting enmities to any ; correct, careful and truthful in every business relation with his fellow men, and eminently kind, considerate and charitable towards his brethren and companions ; possessed, indeed of almost every kindly quality which tends to endear a man to his fellows, Companion ISAACS has departed from us, leaving that best of legacies, the love and esteem of all who knew him.

To perpetuate, so far as may be, our remembrance of one so well loved and esteemed, your committee recommend that a mourning page be dedicated in our printed proceedings to the memory of our deceased companion, and that the vacant chair of the Deputy Grand High Priest be draped in mourning.

All which is respectfully submitted by

ALEX. G. ABELL,
JOHN KIRKPATRICK, } Committee.
STEPHEN WING,

Which report was concurred in.

Comp. CHARLES MARSH, from the special Committee on Uniformity of Work, presented the following report :

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California :

Your committee, to whom was referred the subject of Uniformity of Work, respectfully report that in the consideration of the subject they have arrived at the conclusion that the work as adopted by this Grand Chapter in 1855, and since practiced by a great majority of the Chapters of this jurisdiction, is in all essentials consonant with the traditions and history of Royal Arch Masonry in the United States, and that a reasonably well skilled Royal Arch Mason of this jurisdiction can make himself known in any Chapter working under the so called American or English Rite. It is true that there are some minor differences which obtain in the several jurisdictions of the country, but they are not of sufficient importance to disturb the universality of the Royal Craft throughout our country, as is illustrated by the regularly occurring Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter since 1798. At the last Triennial Convocation in 1871, nearly every Grand Chapter in the United States was represented, and recognized as exponents of the American system of Royal Arch Masonry.

Therefore your committee respectfully recommend that the work and lectures heretofore taught in this jurisdiction as adopted by this Grand Body in 1855 be continued, and that each Chapter be required to conform thereto; and to insure a strict compliance with this order, we recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That from and after the first day of December, A. D. 1874, A. I. 2404, no High Priest of a Chapter under this jurisdiction shall be installed, unless he shall present to the installing officer a certificate from the Grand Lecturer, or some Companion known by the Grand Lecturer to be skilled in the work, that he is "qualified to properly confer all the Chapter degrees and deliver the lectures thereunto appertaining," and the installing officer shall forward such certificate to the Grand Secretary.

All which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES MARSH,
ALEXANDER G. ABELL, } Committee.

Which report was concurred in and the accompanying resolution was adopted.

Comp. HIRAM THROOP GRAVES, from the Committee on Finances, presented the following report :

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California :

Your Committee on Finances respectfully report that they have examined the books and accounts of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, carefully compar-

ing the returns, vouchers, etc., with their reports, and find the same in all respects correct.

The receipts for the year ending January 31st, 1874, have been as follows :

Balance in hands of Grand Treasurer at date of last report,.....	\$5140 56
Dues from subordinate Chapters,.....	3579 50
Special dispensations,.....	10 00
Fees for charters to New Chapters,.....	150 00
For sixteen diplomas,.....	32 00
For twenty bound volumes proceedings Grand Chapter,.....	40 00
Funds of late <i>Quincy</i> Chapter,.....	125 00

Total\$9077 06

Which has been expended as follows :—

For expenses of delegates at Annual Convocation, 1873,.....	\$960 60
Expenses of Grand Officers, 1873,.....	93 80
Grand Guard,.....	25 00
Grand Organist,.....	25 00
Printing proceedings,.....	612 16
Masonic Hall Association for rent,.....	300 00
Expenses Grand Secretary's office,.....	50 00
For portrait of Past Grand High Priest Jacob Hart Neff,.....	75 00
Postage Stamps, printing, stationery, etc.,.....	70 75
Cleaning and lettering portraits of Past Grand High Priests,.....	22 50
Dues to General Grand Chapter, 1873,.....	21 61
Salary of Grand Secretary,.....	1200 00
Dues to General Grand Chapter, 1874,.....	21 61

Total.....\$3484 03

Leaving balance in the Treasury,..... 5593 03

\$9077 06

Your committee would recommend that the following appropriations be made for the expenses of the current year :

For printing proceedidgs Grand Chapter,.....	\$ 700 00
For expenses delegates and Grand Officers.....	1200 00
For salary of the Grand Secretary,.....	1200 00
For rent of Grand Secretary's office,	300 00
For expenses of Grand Secretary's office,.....	100 00
For compensation of Grand Guard,.....	25 00
For compensation of Grand Organist,.....	25 00

\$3550 00

In the matter of the resolution offered by Comp. *TINNIN*, proposing to return to the late *Mount Carmel* Chapter, U. D. the fee paid for the dispensation, and which resolution was referred to this committee, we respectfully report that, having inquired into the circumstances of the case, we have ascertained the following facts :

Soon after the dispensation was granted for the formation of *Mount Carmel* Chapter, several of the leading companions removed from *Ætna Mills*, the proposed location of the new Chapter, and consequently those remaining found it impossible to organize; and, although the dispensation was asked for in good faith, and with the most fraternal feeling towards *Cyrus* Chapter, No. 15, (of which Chapter most of the petitioners were formerly members,) and solely on account of the distance which the companions were obliged to travel in order to attend the meetings of said Chapter,

and although the companions have expended a considerable sum of money aside from that paid for the dispensation, yet they find it utterly impossible to organize.

In view of these facts, we recommend that the fee paid for their dispensation, viz., ninety dollars, be refunded.

Your committee would further recommend that the sum of \$3000, of the balance now in the treasury, be invested in the stock of the Masonic Hall Association, and that a special committee of three be appointed by the Grand High Priest to make the investment according to their best judgment.

All which is respectfully submitted.

HIRAM T. GRAVES, HENRY S. ORME, GEO. F. MALLETT, JACOB H. NEFF, ALVIN B. PRESTON,	}	Committee.
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Which report was concurred in and the Grand High Priest appointed as a special committee—

On Investment of Funds :.....	{	Comp. Hiram T. Graves, " James Laidley, " Charles Marsh.
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On motion, the sum of twenty-five dollars was ordered to be paid to the Grand Guard for services rendered at this Convocation.

The hour for the special order—the election of Grand Officers—having arrived, the Grand High Priest appointed Comps. LOUIS COHN, WILEY JAMES TINNIN, and STEPHEN WING as tellers, and the Grand Chapter proceeded to ballot, with the following result :

The M.: E.: WILLIAM ALEXANDER JANUARY was elected Grand High Priest ;
 " R.: E.: WILLIAM THOMAS REYNOLDS was elected Deputy Grand High Priest ;
 " R.: E.: JOHN MILLS BROWNE was elected Grand King ;
 " R.: E.: HENRY HAY KNAPP was elected Grand Scribe ;
 " R.: E.: JOSEPH BONAPARTE SCOTCHLER was re-elected Grand Treasurer ;
 " R.: E.: CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN was re-elected Grand Secretary ;
 " E.: NATHAN WESTON SPAULDING was elected Grand Captain of the Host ;
 " E.: WILEY JAMES TINNIN was elected Grand Royal Arch Captain.

The Grand High Priest announced the following appointments for the ensuing year, viz., as

Grand Chaplain,..	Rev. Comp. JOHN ELLIOTT BENTON,..	of Alameda Chapter, No. 36 ;
Grand Lecturer,..	" THOS. HUBBARD CASWELL,	of Nevada " No. 6 ;
Grand Organist,..	" SAMUEL DAVID MAYER,..	of California " No. 5 ;
Grand Guard,....	" IRA COLBURN ROOT,.....	of California " No. 5.

Comp. ALEXANDER CHALMERS, from the special Committee for the Payment of Delegates, presented the following report :

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of California:

Your committee, to whom was referred the apportionment of the Representative Fund, have performed the duty assigned them, and recommend that the following amounts be allowed the delegates of the Chapters represented:

<i>San Francisco</i> , No. 1,.....	\$ 6 00	<i>Oakland</i> , No. 26,.....	6 30
<i>Sonora</i> , " 2,.....	29 00	<i>Della</i> , " 27,.....	20 00
<i>Sacramento</i> , " 3,.....	16 00	<i>Stockton</i> , " 28,.....	13 00
<i>California</i> , " 5,.....	6 00	<i>Manzanita</i> , " 29,.....	36 00
<i>Nevada</i> , " 6,.....	31 00	<i>Napa</i> , " 30,.....	10 00
<i>Benicia</i> , " 7,.....	8 00	<i>Martinez</i> , " 31,.....	8 50
<i>Shasta</i> , " 9,.....	42 00	<i>Los Angeles</i> , " 33,.....	49 50
<i>Sutter</i> , " 11,.....	27 00	<i>Alturas</i> , " 34,.....	66 00
<i>Washington</i> , " 13,.....	23 00	<i>Naval</i> , " 35,.....	8 00
<i>Howard</i> , " 14,.....	10 00	<i>Alameda</i> , " 36,.....	6 30
<i>Cyrus</i> , " 15,.....	82 50	<i>Siloam</i> , " 37,.....	23 00
<i>Saint James</i> , " 16,.....	31 00	<i>Santa Cruz</i> , " 38,.....	19 00
<i>Libanus</i> , " 17,.....	27 00	<i>Donner</i> , " 39,.....	42 00
<i>Grass Valley</i> , " 18,.....	31 00	<i>Red Bluff</i> , " 40,.....	27 00
<i>Trinity</i> , " 19,.....	46 50	<i>Temple</i> , " 41,.....	18 00
<i>Franklin</i> , " 20,.....	25 00	<i>Chico</i> , " 42,.....	27 00
<i>Sierra</i> ,] " 21,.....	60 00	<i>Solano</i> , " 43,.....	10 50
<i>Petaluma</i> , " 22,.....	8 00	<i>Visalia</i> , " 44,.....	43 00
<i>Oliver</i> , " 23,.....	27 00	<i>Santa Rosa</i> , " 45,.....	10 00
<i>Georgetown</i> , " 25,.....	32 00	<i>Woodland</i> , " 46,.....	16 00
		\$1028 10	

And that the following amounts be allowed the Grand Officers in attendance:

Grand High Priest,....	\$13 00	Grand Royal Arch Captain,.....	6 30
Grand King,.....	6 30	Grand Lecturer,.....	31 00
Grand Scribe,.....	10 00	Grand Chaplain,.....	6 30
Grand Captain of the Host,.....	10 00	\$1110 00	

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ALEXANDER CHALMERS, LOUIS WELLENDORFF, SAMUEL PRAGER, HENRY H. KNAPP, REUBEN LEECH,	}	Committee.
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The newly elected and appointed Grand Officers were then duly installed in their respective stations by the M. E. WILLIAM ABRAHAM DAVIES, Past Grand High Priest, assisted by the M. E. CHAS. MARSH, Past Grand High Priest, as Master of Ceremonies.

The Grand High Priest announced the appointment of the following standing Committees for the ensuing year:

On Jurisprudence:

Comp. William Thomas Reynolds,
" John William Harville,
" Charles Marsh,
" Henry Sayre Orme,
" William Sewall Wells.

On Correspondence:

Comp. Charles Louis Wiggin,
" Wiley James Tinnin,
" Thomas Callow,
" Edmund Taylor Wilkins,
" Edward Richard Hedges.

The business of the Grand Chapter being all completed, the minutes of the day were read and approved; and, after prayer by the Grand Chaplain, and appropriate music by the choir, the Grand Chapter of California was closed in *Ample Form*.

WILLIAM ALEXANDER JANUARY,

Grand High Priest.

ATTEST:

CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,

Grand Secretary.

This Mourning Page,

BY ORDER OF THE

MOST EXCELLENT GRAND CHAPTER

OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

IS GIVEN TO THE

Memory of our lamented Companion

Joseph Isaacs,

Who was born in Manchester, England, in 1823,

AND

Who died in the town of Shasta, on the eighth day of October,
1853, aged fifty years.

HE HAD BEEN

MASTER OF WESTERN STAR LODGE, No. 2,

High Priest of Shasta Chapter, No. 9,

Thrice Illustrious Master of Shasta Council, No. 6,

M. P. Grand Master of the Grand Council of California,

AND WAS, AT THE TIME OF HIS DEATH,

DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIEST

OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF CALIFORNIA.

A good and useful citizen, a true and consistent Mason, upright and correct in all his dealings with his fellow men, he died lamented by all who knew him.

*"Blessed are they that keep judgment, and he that doeth
righteousness at all times."*

GENERAL REGULATIONS.

1. The Degree of Past Master must be conferred upon all candidates who have previously had the degree conferred upon them in a convocation of Past Masters, by virtue of an election to preside over a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.

2. All the Chapters under this jurisdiction are required, in the conferring of degrees, to conform to the ritual adopted by the Grand Chapter, at its Special Convocation, in September, 1855.

3. Every Mark Master attached to a Chapter under this jurisdiction must, within six months after his admission, select his mark, and record the same in a Book of Marks, kept by the Chapter for that purpose; and it is made the special duty of the Secretary of each Chapter to see that this regulation is complied with.

4. The term "nearest Chapter," used in the Constitution, means the nearest by geographical measurement.

5. No Masonic communication shall be held with a Royal Arch Mason who stands suspended as a Master Mason, for any cause.

6. Each Chapter under this jurisdiction shall pay, in addition to its annual dues, the sum of one dollar for each Royal Arch Mason borne upon its roll at the date of its annual report, which additional assessment shall be used as a fund to defray the actual expenses of one delegate from each Chapter represented at the annual convocations of the Grand Chapter, the same to be apportioned by a special committee appointed for that purpose.

7. Whenever two or more Chapters exist in any city or town within this jurisdiction, it shall be the duty of each of such Chapters to notify the other or others existing in the same place of all applications presented to it for the degrees.

8. That the Grand High Priest be requested to appoint a Grand Lecturer, who will be authorized to teach and instruct the subordinate Chapters in conformity with the ritual adopted by this Grand Chapter at its Special Convocation in September 1855.

9. When, after an election of an applicant to receive the Chapter degrees, and he has received the Mark degree, an objection to his advancement is made at any time by a member, such objection shall be referred to a committee, with power to inquire into the cause thereof, who shall at the next stated meeting (unless further time be given) report thereon; and upon the reception of such report, if no cause for the objection has been assigned, or if the cause assigned be, in the opinion of two-thirds of the members present, not a valid and Masonic one, the Chapter may confer the degree in the same manner as if no objection had been made.

10. No petition for the degrees, or application for membership, shall be received by any Chapter within this jurisdiction, unless it be signed with the full name or names of the petitioner or applicant; and, in the annual reports of the subordinate Chapters, the given name or names of every member or others upon their rolls, shall be given in full.

11. The provisions of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of the State of California shall be, in all essential respects, where there is no conflict between it and the Constitution of this Grand Chapter, the rules and regulations by which the action of the subordinate Chapters of this jurisdiction shall be governed.

12. From and after the first day of December, 1874, no High Priest of a Chapter under this jurisdiction shall be installed, unless he shall present to the installing officer a certificate from the Grand Lecturer, or some companion known by the Grand Lecturer to be skilled in the work, that he is qualified to properly confer all the Chapter degrees and deliver the lectures thereunto appertaining; and the installing officer shall forward such certificate to the Grand Secretary.

13. The limit of physical qualifications to be required of a candidate for the degrees conferred by a Royal Arch Chapter under this jurisdiction, shall be simply, that he be enabled to conform strictly to all which the ritual in those degrees makes necessary.

RETURNS
OF THE
SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS
UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE
GRAND CHAPTER OF CALIFORNIA,
A. I. 2404.

SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER, No. 1.

San Francisco, San Francisco County.

Stated Meetings, first and third Mondays in each month.

OFFICERS :

Samuel Sternheim, <i>High Priest</i> ,	Alfred Rising, <i>Master of 3d Vail</i> ,
Simon Baum, <i>King</i> ,	Wm. Adams Stuart, <i>Master of 2d Vail</i> ,
Henry Edwards, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Joseph Getz, <i>Master of 1st Vail</i> ,
Edw'd Taylor Anthony, <i>Capt. of the Host</i> ,	Joseph Clement, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Henry Williams, <i>Principal Sojourner</i> ,	Henry Lyon Cohen, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Henry Wangenheim, <i>Royal Arch Captain</i> ,	Henry Martyn Bosworth, <i>Organist</i> ,
Ira Colburn Root, (of California, No. 5) <i>Guard</i> .	

Past High Priests :

John Dunbar Creigh,	Martin John Burke,	Stewart Menzies,
Adolphus Hollub,	John Rudolphe Jarboe,	Theodore Edward Smith.
Louis Cohn,	Milton Hills Myrick,	

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Anderson, Thomas	Clinch, Charles Godfrey	Eisenberg, Julius
Arnold, Benjamin Franklin	Cohen, Martin	Emanuel, Emanuel
Behrendt, Herman	Cohen, Simon	Esberg, Mendel
Berggren, August	Coggsell, Jas. LaFayette	Farquharson, David
Bergson, Ole	Craig, James	Farran, Charles James
Bilty, Theodore George	Craig, Peter	Fisher, Henry James
Browell, Jeremiah	Cressy, Albert	Foorman, Samuel
Bryan, William	Curry, Nathaniel	Franz, Bernhard
Bullock, Frank Dyer	Davis, Henry Lamen	Fried, Ignatius S.
Burns, Henry Jameson	Doane, Sharon Pratt	Friedberg, Morris T.
Caro, Samuel	Dreyfous, Benjamin	Friedlander, Moritz
Carpenter, Augustine Dyer	Einstein, Morris	Fuller, Andrew

Gay, John Gilmore	Lauden, Martin Kuttner	Robitscheck, Herman
Gerhow, Frederick	Levy, Jacob	Rosenbaum, Joseph
Getz, Louis	Levinsky, Mark	Rosenbaum, Julius
Getz, Solomon	Madison, John Henry	Rosenbaum, Moses
Ghiradelli, Domingo, Jr.	Manzur, Lonson Martin	Saulman, August
Giambini, Natale	McAlester, Wm. Frederick	Sawyer, Lorenzo
Gilberts, Edward	McDonald, Robert	Scharlin, John Aaron
Gordon, James Edward	Meyer, Charles	Schmidt, Anton
Gruenberg, Max	Michaels, Aaron W.	Schweitzer, John
Haight, Henry Huntley	Mohrhardt, Philip Fred'k	Solomon, Albert
Hanson, Henry Sorenson	Moraghan, Michael Bolan	Steffani, Camillo
Haraszthy, Arpad	Mosgrove, Samuel	Sumner, Frank Wood
Harris, Daniel	Newbauer, Herman Wolf	Sumner, William Brintnell
Heald, Charles Byron	Newfield, Marcus	Sweet, Solomon
Herzo, John	Newhall, Henry Mayo	Treat, George
Hiller, Frederick	Newman, Isaac	Triest, Bernhard
Huntoon, Isaac Davenport	Nicolaysen, Frank	Voight, Christian
Jacoby, Augustus	Nutsen, Charles A.	Von Aspern, John
Jordon, Dennis	O'Neil, Robert	Walton, Nelson Collins, Jr.
Kahlman, Solomon	Parker, John H.	Wood, Andrew Bunker
Kehoe, John	Pearson, Henry Haven	Woolley, Lell Hawley
Kenitzer, Henry	Prag, Martin	Wormser, Louis
Kittredge, Jonathan	Rawson, Julius Addison	Wurkheim, Morris
Kohn, Isaac	Richards, Charles Wesley	Zinn, Henry—128.
Laronche, Antoine	Robinson, Cornel's Preston	

MARK MASTERS :

Saalberg, William	Samuels, David	Schonefeld, Jacob—3.
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RESTORED :

O'Neil, Robert	Fried, Ignatius S.—2.
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WITHDRAWN :

Schweitzer, Samuel	Wormser, Isidor	Fuentes, Charles Angel—3.
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DIED :

Havens, Wickham Sayre—1.

SONORA CHAPTER, No. 2.

Columbia, Toulumne County.

Stated Meetings, Wednesday of or next preceding Full Moon.

OFFICERS :

Frederick Faxon, <i>High Priest,</i>	Alonzo Colby, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Gideon Wing, <i>King,</i>	Archibald Patterson, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Alvin Bacon Preston, <i>Scribe,</i>	Edward Kell, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Wm. Davis Newton, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Charles Edward Lang, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Peter Klein, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Edwin Aldrich Rodgers, <i>Secretary,</i>
Henry Dose, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Francis Anthony Prassa, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Francis Anthony Prassa,	William Davis Newton,	William Henry Ryan,
Alvin Bacon Preston,	Stephen Wing,	Eli Griffith Bacon,
Isaac Newton McCulloch,	Edward Skinner,	Edwin Aldrich Rodgers.
Frederick Faxon,		

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Andross, Moses Chamberl'n	Fuller, James Monroe	Oppenheimer, Benjamin
Bacon, Martin	Harris, Charles Parsons	Parsons, Edmond
Barlow, Abraham	Johnson, William	Reed, Abner
Bartlett, Daniel Francis	Klein, Conrad	Ripperdan, Isaac
Bell, James	Klein, Peter	Rudorff, William Gustave
Benas, Solomon	Lampson, Royal Mills	Severing, Henry
Bush, George Carroll	Matthews, James	Sharrock, Evrard
Byrd, Francis Jahew	Mann, John Christian	Thurman, William H.
Calhoun, Henry Clay	McFarland, Matthias Fans	Wilson, Richard Montg'y
Carter, John Beach	Mundorf, John	White, Moses Henry
Cleveland, Septimus Allin	Mayer, Willis	Winne, George
Fosterling, Louis	Mitchell, Freder'k Francis	Wade, Charles Frederick

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WITHDRAWN :

Bell, Andrew N.	Doxey, Beverly M.—2.
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SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Yancey, Tyron Milton—1.

SACRAMENTO CHAPTER, No. 3.**Sacramento, Sacramento County.***Stated Meetings, first Tuesday in each month.***OFFICERS:**

William Monroe Petrie, <i>High Priest,</i>	Frank Wm. Marvin, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
John Austin Cunningham, <i>King,</i>	Albert Currier Tufts, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Hamilton Carter Harrison, <i>Scribe,</i>	Elias Rath, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
William Smith Hunt, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Henry William Bragg, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Wm. Buckley Davis, <i>Principal Sajourner,</i>	George Norman Parker, <i>Secretary,</i>
Hilliard P. Cottingham, <i>Royal Arch Capt.,</i>	Petrage Zacharias, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

James Lawrence English,	George Howard Winterburn,
William Franklin Knox,	Powell Samuel Lawson,
Francis Foster,	William Monroe Petrie.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Allen, John Francis	Banquier, Joseph	Budd, Henry
Allen, Robert	Bergevin, Nelson Langevin	Burnham, James Henry
Alexander, Benj. Franklin	Berkey, Thomas Henry	Burch, John Chilton
Anthony, James	Bronner, George Frederick	Callaghan, Daniel E.
Bachmann, Rudolph	Brewington, Benj. Smith	Champlin, Nelson
Barnes, Jacob	Bryding, Peter	Choquette, Calliste

Clark, Thomas William	Haskell, Dudley Haines	Nelson, Alton Titus
Cluness, William R.	Haymond, Creed	Oakley, Peter Eager
Coghlan, Charles Mortimer	Hawkins, William	O'Neil, James
Cohn, Charles	Hevener, William Henry	Oschner, John
Conover, John	Hillier, Theodore	Parnell, John Henry
Cook, Hiram	Hoag, William Moffit	Phillips, Louis
Coolidge, Isaac Baldwin	Hoehn, Jacob	Phipps, Eugene King
Crocker, George Monroe	Holmes, Henry T.	Rademacher, Charles
Crocker, Henry Smith	Hull, Joseph	Rath, Elias
Croly, Edward James	Hyman, Jacob, Sr.	Redington, Alfred Augustus
Curtis, Edward Malcom	Hyman, Jacob, Jr.	Robertson, John
Cutter, Benoni Benjamin	Inwalle, John Joseph	Robinson, Robert
Dale, Richard	Jackson, William Franklin	Ross, Charles Henry
Davis, Jacob Zeigler	Jacobs, Enoch	Rothermel, Chas. Nicholas
Davis, William Oliver	Jones, Edward Augustus	Sawyer, James C.
Day, James Thompson	Jones, Jeremiah Solon	Silberstein, Morris
Dennerly, Bernard	Kay, Samuel	Sims, Samuel
Domingos, John	Keber, Jacob	Smith, John Wm. Martin
Drew, Nathaniel Lafayette	Kercheval, Reuben	Smith, Joshua Hughes
Duprey, George	Kimball, Gorham Gates	Spinks, Alfred
Earl, George	Krebs, Charles Henry	Starr, Erwin Platt
Ecklon, Christian Ludwig	Lavenson, Samuel	Steinman, Bernard Ulmer
Egl, Anthony	Lawrie, John Brown	Taylor, Edwin Frost
Eichkoff, John Henry	Levison, Jacob	Trope, Peter
English, William Garrison	Levy, Edward Roger	Ulp, Alfred
Feldheim, Nathan G.	Libby, Warren Thompson	Valliant, Adam Clark
Forbes, Robert	Locke, George Washington	Wachhorst, Herman
Foy, Wm. Robinson Smith	Lyon, Edward	Walker, Myron Philo
Frank, Samuel	Maholm, James Bowland	Wallquist, Carl Johan
Gates, Justin	Maier, Jacob Fred. William	Waterhouse, Columbus
Gerson, Samuel	Marvin, Frank William	Webster, Joseph Richard
Giraud, Eugene	Merrill, John F.	Welch, Benjamin
Golden, Thomas	McConnell, Thomas	Welch, George Drake
Goldberg, Harris	McCormack, Charles	Wells, William Henry
Grady, John Harmony	McKune, John Hill	White, George Amos
Griffiths, John T.	Miller, Peter Andrew	Wickstram, Carl Elias
Haines, Gabriel	Montgomery, George	Wilcoxson, Jefferson
Hamilton, Chas. Alexander	Morse, Stephen Turner	Wilson, Jesse Warren
Hammer, Luther Kentz	Murphy, Robert Wilson	Woods, Jonas Stanbury
Harper, Thomas		

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MARK MASTER:

John S. Harbison—1.

PAST MASTER:

James Nicholas Porter.—1.

RESTORED:

Smith, Hiram Abiff

Wheeler, Osgood Church

Whitmore, A. S.—3.

WITHDRAWN:

Cohn, Charles

McKune, Henry Ewalt

Whitmore, A. S.

Gallatin, Daniel S.

Smith, Hiram Abiff

Williamson, David J.—8.

Hill, William Henry

Wheeler, Osgood Church

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:

Bngbey, Benjamin Norton

Gillis, Dougald

Radcliff, William M.

Christy, Edward

Mayer, Bernhard

Willett, Edward W—6.

DIED:

William Hoehn—1.

CALIFORNIA CHAPTER, No. 5.**San Francisco, San Francisco County.***Stated Meetings, first and third Tuesdays in each month.***OFFICERS :**

Alfred Coolidge Waitt, <i>High Priest</i> ,	John Elbridge Purdy, <i>Master of 2d Vail</i> ,
Joseph Miller Litchfield, <i>King</i> ,	Dan Joseph Edgar, <i>Master of 1st Vail</i> ,
Alphonso Hyman Vaughn, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Samuel Graves, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Charles Johnson Willey, <i>Capt. of the Host</i> ,	William Edward Moody, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Jesse Combes Reed, <i>Principal Sojourner</i> ,	Samuel David Mayer, <i>Organist</i> ,
John Newman, <i>Royal Arch Captain</i> ,	James Oglesby, <i>Guard</i> .
Thos. Thompson Atkinson, <i>Mast. 3d Vail</i> ,	

Past High Priests :

Rueben Edgar Raymond,	Wm. Thomas Reynolds,	William Wilson Traylor,
Alexander Gurdon Abell,	James Laidley,	John Kirkpatrick,
William Henry Lyon,	John Francis Snow,	John William Harville,
Charles Louis Wiggin,	Hiram Throop Graves	Thomas Kyle.
George Tuttle Grimes,	Samuel Graves,	

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Angus, John Archibald	Cecil, John	Fake, George John
Ashbury, Monroe	Center, John	Farnam, Edward
Ashley, Sidney John	Chapin, Dinsmore Davis	Farrish, Thomas Edwin
Arrowsmith, D. Bloomer	Chevers, William Henry	Farwell, William Havard
Balch, Stephen Moore	Churchill, Clark	Flynn, Martin
Baldwin, Alex. Richard	Clary, William Henry	Foot, Henry DuQuesnet
Bamber, John	Cockrill, Theo. Guevara	Garfield, John Quincy
Barnes, Wm. Henry Linow	Cook, Nicholas Leonidas	Garratt, William Thompson
Barth, Charles Hunter	Cousins, Charles Samuel	Gates, Horatio Sylvester
Bateman, Isaac Christian	Cox, Henry	Gilmore, Archibald Neill
Beach, Henry Martin	Cox, Palmer	Goewey, James Monroe
Beadle, Donald	Craig, William	Grant, Thomas Chamberlin
Bell, John	Cummings, Walter Bailey	Gray, William
Best, John Tretten	Davis, Edmund S.	Graham, John
Blaikie, James Longhead	Davis, Isaac Ephinstone	Green, Alonzo
Boswell, Solomon Bailey	Day, Franklin Henry	Gunn, William John
Bourne, Elisha Wilson	Dean, Peter	Hall, Robert
Bragg, Robert	Dougherty, Chas. Medley	Harney, William
Brander, John Samuel	Earl, John Ogden	Harrington, John Conly
Brannan, Samuel	Earl, Henry Halford	Harris, James Henry
Bridge, William Edward	Eastman, Frank	Haskell, Charles Lyman
Brigham, Calvin Oakes	Easton, Wendell	Hastings, Everett Linus
Bromley, George Tisdale	Eaton, Jonas Allen	Hildebrandt, Carsten
Brooks, Thomas Hubbard	Eckfeldt, John Michael	Hobbs, Caleb Seccohmb
Brown, Roland Gair	Edwards, Frank George	Hodge, John G.
Browning, Jeremiah	Elliot, Gardner	Hodgkins, Alfred Randall
Bruner, Wm. Happersatt	Elliot, Charles Emery	Holcomb, William Austin
Bryan, Edward Hord	Ellis, Henry Hiram	Hotaling, Anson Parsons
Bullis, Omri	Ewell, Luther Jerome	Hotchkiss, Henry Wells
Callaghan, Charles	Estee, Morris March	Howard, George Henry

Howe, George Washington	Middleton, Frank	Shattuck, David Dustin
Horton, Thomas Rotch	Miller, Elbridge L.	Short, Peter
Ingalls, John Newton	Miller, Stephen Girard	Shrader, Andrew Jackson
Jacobs, Albert	Montagnie, Joseph E. de la	Smith, Edwin Lawrence
Jaynes, Frank	Montague, Wilford Weed	Smith, Henry Sumner
Jeffray, William	Moore, Elliot Josiah	Smith, Stephen Henry
Johnson, John Munroe	Moore, Robert Henry	Stadtfeld, Jacob
Johnson, William Corrie	Morgan, David Jr.	Stanley, Samuel Lewis
Johnston, Baptist	Morgan, John Stilwell	Steiger, Charles Rudolphe
Johnston, William David	Morse, Ebenezer Eaton	Stockman, John Milton
Jones, Cyrus Winship	Morse, Amos Clark	Stoutenborough, J. Henry
Jones, William Arthur	Morton, Charles Carey	Stringer, William James
Kennedy, Frank	Nagel, William	Sullivan, Eugene Lemuel
Kennedy, John Fitzmaurice	Nagle, George Dedrich	Swift, James Flitcroft
Kibbe, Henry Clay	Neal, Charles Sanders	Thompson, Lucius
Kimball, Moses Combe	Neville, Ernest Harry	Thomson, Malcolm
King, Henry Lewis	Norcross, Daniel	Thrall, Henry Homer
King, John	Northrop, David Blair	Torrence, John
King, Joseph Libbey	O'Conner, Thomas Michael	Trueworthy, Francis Marion
Kincaid, John Evans	Osgood, George	Tustin, William Isaac
Kuh, Leopold	Parker, George Franklin	Urquhart, James Simonson
Kaeding, Chas. Van Buren	Pendergast, James Albert	Valentine, John
Lane, Edmund	Plum, Charles Mortimer	Van Duzer, Oliver
Laird, David White	Plummer, Harry Wilkinson	Von Jinsen, Ernest
Landers, John	Pratt, Leonidas E.	Wadsworth, James C. L.
Lewis, Edwin	Price, Thomas	Warren, Joseph M.
Litchfield, Watson Dyer	Prior, John Lewis	Waterhouse, Fred. Adelbert
Lloyd, Reuben Hedley	Ramsdell, Benjamin Hatch	Waters, George Latham
Loop, Sidney Joseph	Reavis, William Henry	Wells, William
Louderback, Andrew A.	Reynolds, Frank Bailey	Wetherbee, Calvin Hale
Luty, John Samuel	Richards, William Henry	Wheeler, Jacob
Lyman, Charles	Root, Ira Colburn	Wightman, John
Maguire, Joseph	Rosekrans, Hiram	Wilde, Francis Brooke
Maieas, Christian W.	Rundell, William Mason	Willey, Otis Freeman
Marye, Geo. Thomas Jr.	Russell, John Adam	Williams, Abraham Pease
McComb, John	Sawyer, Charles Henry	Williams, John Henry
McCrindle, William	Schneider, Edward William	Williamson, Robt. Stockton
McDonald, Alex. Dunbar	Seaton, Horace Henry	Wilson, Charles
McDonough, And. Nester	Selden, James Miles	Winkle, Henry
McMath, Joseph	Shaeffer, John Werner	Wooster, John Benjamin
McNulty, Charles Augustus		—238.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS :

Hamlin, George Smith, Adrian Russell Spratt, George S—3.

MARK MASTER:

Howard, Horace Zerath—1.

RESTORED :

Stoutenborough, John Henry Von Jeinsen, Ernest—2.

WITHDRAWN :

Ellis, John Stonacre Garniss, James Rodgers Schafer, Herman, Henry
Ellsworth, Anson Merrill Olin, Ansil S. Schafer —5.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:

Arnold, Alexander Spencer—1.

EXPELLED :

Lane, George Edward, Jr.—1.

DIED :

Hinckley, Chas. Edward Stebbins, Wm. Pitt Cleveland Van Bokkelen, Jacob L.—3.

NEVADA CHAPTER, No. 6.**Nevada, Nevada County.***Stated Meetings, first Monday in each month.***OFFICERS :**

Thomas Mein, <i>High Priest</i> ,	Kaskil Casper, <i>Master of 3d Vail</i> ,
Ianthus Jerome Rolfe, <i>King</i> ,	William Floyd, <i>Master of 2d Vail</i> ,
Edwin Tilley, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Halstead Stansfield, <i>Master of 1st Vail</i> ,
James Harvey Helm, <i>Capt. of the Host</i> ,	Martin Luther Marsh, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Benjamin Bruce Lee, <i>Principal Sojourner</i> ,	Thomas Hubbard Caswell, <i>Secretary</i> ,
John Herbert Boardman, <i>Royal Arch Capt.</i>	Joseph Brewster Gray, <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests :

Thomas Hubbard Caswell, Charles Marsh, Thomas Mein.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Banner, Pincus	Gilbert, John Richards	Rose, David
Chapin, Samuel Leonard	Goldsmith, Adolphus	Rose, James
Colby, George Hackett	Greenwald, Julius	Sargent, Aaron Augustus
Crandall, Orman	Hale, Horace	Sanders, William Henry
Davidson, William Henry	Hathaway, Francis Marion	Sanders, Josiah
Dickson, John Hutton	Long, William David	Searls, Niles
Dill, John	McBrown, John	Slinger, William
Donald, Alfred	Montgomery, John	Stowers, Nathaniel Henry
Donald, James	Pease, Sanford Orrin	Thom, David, Jr.
Donald, Thomas	Powers, George S.	Weeks, William Hamilton
Ennis, Franklin	Prescott, Lyman Reed	Wheeler, Matthew Mitchell
Faull, George	Preston, Edward Myers	Williamson, Levi
Fleming, Jos. Davenport	Randolph, William Cooper	Wing, Rodney
Fowler, Edwin	Richards, Philip	Wirth, James Albert—65.
Gentry, Richard Benton	Rolfe, Ianthus Jerome	

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS:

Holmes, William McElroy, Charles Reid, James—3.

PAST MASTER:

McBean, John—1.

WITHDRAWN:

Brown, David Matthew	Greenwald, Julius	Williams, Edward—5.
Davis, James	Tisdale, William De Witt	

EXCLUDED:

Colby, George Hackett—1.

BENICIA CHAPTER, No. 7.

Benicia, Solano County.

Stated Meetings, Tuesday of or next preceding Full Moon.

OFFICERS:

Timothy Sage, <i>High Priest,</i>	Edward H. Von Pfister, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
John Housely, <i>King,</i>	Robert Stewart, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Lansing Bond Mizner, <i>Scribe,</i>	Archibald McDonald, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
George Poor, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	John Rueger, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Wm. Henry Smith, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Thomas McKay, <i>Secretary,</i>
Joseph G. Johnson, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	William Mathewson, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Sylvester Woodbridge,	Timothy Sage.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Brownlee, Thomas	Holbrook, Charles Edward	Owen, John Wren
Danforth, Edwin	Long, Michael Henry	Pollock, Robert
Ennis, Richard	Mathewson, John	Spencer, Christopher
Freeman, Otis Kimball	McKenzie, Allen	Westlake, John—26.
Grant, John		

WITHDRAWN :

Ashbrook, Alfred—1.

DIED:

Scott, James—1.

SHASTA CHAPTER, No. 9.

Shasta, Shasta County.

Stated Meetings, second and fourth Tuesdays in each month..

OFFICERS:

Louis Wellendorff, <i>High Priest,</i>	Alexander R. Andrews, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
William Ely Hopping, <i>King,</i>	Charles Anderson, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Joseph Weil, <i>Scribe,</i>	Ulysses R. Lord, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Elijah Mason Dixon, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Daniel Potter Bystle, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Adolph Dobrowski, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	David Weil, <i>Secretary,</i>
Mortimer C. Allen, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Gunther Fred. C. Schroter, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Whiting Griswood West, <i>P. G. H. P.</i>	George Carruth Farquhar,
Adolph Dobrowsky,	Daniel Potter Bystle.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Andrew, William	Overmire, Charles Edwin	Swain, Alex. Cartwright
Anklin, Henry	Pryor, Athanasius	Sweet, Henry Andrew
Chandler, Fred. Brewster	Reagan, James	Syme, John
Chappell, James Nathan	Reinecke, Christopher	Taggart, Grant Israel
Coleman, Adoram	Ross, Herman Frederick	Taylor, Holloway
Garden, John William	Scammon, James Freeman	Watson, William
Greene, Thomas	Scott, John Varner	Webb, John Paxton
Guptil, William Neal	Shuffleton, Hugh Hall	Wheeler, Frank
Higginbotham, Jno. Baptist	Shurtleff, Benjamin	Wilson, Henry Ellis
Matlock, David B.	Souter, John	Wimmer, James Moses—45.
Moore, Joseph		

RESTORED :

Moore, Joseph—1.

DIED :

Goodberg, Francis William	Isaacs, Joseph	Parker, William—3.
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SUTTER CHAPTER, No. 11.**Sutter Creek, Amador County.***Stated Meetings, third Friday in each month.***OFFICERS:**

Henry Peck, <i>High Priest,</i>	William Bennetts, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Robert Aitken, <i>King,</i>	Morris Brinn, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Charles Drake Burleson, <i>Scribe,</i>	Robert Redpath, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
John Whitton Surface, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	John Barnes Kelley, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Abner E. Callaway, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Alonzo King Dudley, <i>Secretary,</i>
Thomas Dunlap, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Jesse Milliken, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Alvinza Haward,	Alexander Cartwright Joy,	Henry Peck.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Adams, James	Huse, Samuel Emerson	Richling, Peter
Briggs, Samuel Green	Isaacs, Bernard	Robinson, John Andrew
Bry, Daniel William	Keyes, John	Rose, Albert Henry
Campbell, John M.	Lillie, John B.	Smith, William
Clute, Peter Alonzo	Lutnesky, Vincent	Spagnolia, Duval Bennedetto
Comstock, Asa Leland	Manon, Samuel Sanford	Spagnolia, Sylvester Giovanni
Cook, Philemon	McLane, Laughlin	Steinberger, John Adam
Cosner, Robert	Mehrtens, Daniel	Stuart, Horace Moulton
Davies, David Thomas	Newman, George	Stewart, James Franklin
Fagan, Peter	Palmer, Eliphalet Charles	Sutherland, William
Farley, James Thompson	Parkinson, Manuel Casado	Walther, Otto
Fiske, Henry Mortimer	Post, John McDougal	Whetstone, Wm. Columbus
Ford, Henry Darnell	Poundstone, Laurence Ryd	Whitlach, Daniel Henry
Hall, Henry Frank	Purrington, Col'bus Allen	Wolley, Eliphus Burt—57.
Henley, Jonathan Speaker		

PAST MASTERS:

Russell, John Elisha	Stewart, Samuel Decount Rolla	Surface, James Phillips—3.
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WITHDRAWN:

Kales, Martin William—1.

CALAVERAS CHAPTER, No. 12.**Merced, Merced County.***Stated Meetings, second and fourth Wednesdays in each month.***OFFICERS:**

Peter Dinwiddie Wigginton, <i>High Priest,</i>	Sam'l Claghorn Bates, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Silas March, <i>King,</i>	Basil Delashmutt, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Frederick Becker, <i>Scribe,</i>	Samuel Dickenson, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Samuel Mitchell Brown, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	Isaac Henry Jacobs, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Chas. Macmurdo Blair, <i>Princip'l Sojourner,</i>	John Alexander Kendrick, <i>Secretary,</i>
William John Hart, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Anthony James Meany, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Peter Dinwiddie Wigginton,	Charles Macmurdo Blair,	Mark Howell.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Adams, William	Grade, William Adolph	Scott, Moses Heaton
Aiken, John McFee	Hardwick, Wm. Jefferson	Silman, William Lewis
Bradford, Abram Clark	James, Henry George	Wallace, Erastus
Breen, Nicholas	Lebright, Frederick	Weed, William Seaman
Dickinson, James Johnson	Means, William Leland	Welch, Peyton Young
Eagleson, Erastus	Rector, Eldridge Gerry	Welch, Lucillus Arthur—32.
Fuqua, John Woodson		

PAST MASTERS :

Jacob Elias,

Henry Christopher Roes.—2.

WASHINGTON CHAPTER, No. 13.

Marysville, Yuba County.

Stated Meetings, second and fourth Fridays in each month.

OFFICERS :

William Fletcher, <i>High Priest,</i>	Victor Lewis Ernshields, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Arthur Gilman Drake, <i>King,</i>	Lewin Falk, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Eli Teegarden, <i>Scribe,</i>	John McIlmoil, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
John Henry Gerken, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Marcus Marcuse, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Garvin Walker Hutchings, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	James Fred. Eastman, <i>Secretary,</i>
Thomas Weston Kent, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Amasa Willey White, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

William Lee Lawrence,
Norman Dunning Rideout,

Edmund Taylor Wilkins,

Charles E. Stone.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Baird, George Hall	Davey, John	Irwin, Alexander Cameron
Barrie, John Ferguson	Decker, Peter	Jackson, William
Belcher, Edward Augustus	Dickey, James Thomas	Jones, William Price
Belcher, Isaac Sawyer	Dobbins, Thomas	Kernan, Thomas Hugh
Belcher, William Caldwell	Dougall, Thomas	Keser, Louis
Bigelow, Marcus James	Filkins, Charles Edward	Keyser, Philip Walter
Bingham, Atkins Clark	Fisher, Charles Lester	Lask, Joseph
Blinney, Andrew Jackson	Foster, John Quincy	Lefavor, William Franklin
Bockius, Charles George	Friend, William	Logan, Anderson Dabney
Bourne, George Jessie	Hamlin, Norman Scott	Lohse, Hermann
Briggs, Joseph Warren	Harrington, Chris. Clark	Marcuse, Meyer A.
Burchard, John Luther	Harris, Isaac Thompson	Marker, Henry Bowman
Burgett, Henry	Hartwell, William Hiscock	Mayoux, Antoine
Buttelman, Frederick	Heath, George	McNutt, John Fleming
Caldwell, Arthur Brooks	Hochstadter, Simon	Mead, George Purdy
Carpenter, Geo. Washington	Hogle, William Henry	North, George
Chandler, Melvin Laveni	Holland, George	Parks, William Henry
Cheney, John	Hollingshead, Jos. Easton	Patterson, Charles Milton
Cohen, Isaac	Hudson, Edward Henry	Raynolds, John
Cohen, William	Hunter, Enos Clark	Reece, Thomas White
Cohn, Bernard	Hutchings, Samuel Cole	Richardson, Geo. Strother
Crane, Lemuel Trescott	Hutchinson, Samuel	Rogers, Sam'l Josiah Smith

Ross, Samuel Haws	Swain, William Caldwell	Warren, Jonas Halstead
Slingsby, William	Tomb, Jacob	Whitebread, Wm. Cesar
Spear, Andrew Potter	Traynor, James	Wilcoxon, Caleb Elisha
Stafford, Joshua	Walker, Charles Frederick	Wiley, Amasa Parker
Stratton, Cornelius Allen	Walker, Louis Phillip	Woods, Matthew—99.
Summerland, Theodore		

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS :

Oakley, Amasa Wilder

Sparks, Martin Van Buren—2.

PAST MASTERS :

Bometter, Charles

Harvey, William—2.

MARK MASTERS :

Jasper, Joseph Miscal Carrington

Steel, Thomas Hugh—2.

WITHDRAWN :

Faulkner, Charles

Patton, John

Tufts, Albert Carrier—3.

DROPPED FROM THE ROLL :**MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS :**

Harris, Elisha A.

Spanning, Frank—2.

DIED :

Cummins, Samuel

Hudson, William Kendall—2.

HOWARD CHAPTER, No. 14.*San Jose, Santa Clara County.**Stated Meetings, first Wednesday in each month***OFFICERS :**

Wilbur Justus Wilcox, <i>High Priest,</i>	Wm. De Witt Allison, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Samuel Watson Boring, <i>King,</i>	Isaiah Moyle, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Henry Harvey Cook, <i>Scribe,</i>	Silas Grout, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Charles Henry Arnold, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Return Roberts, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Wm. Nicholas Castle, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	William Alex. January, <i>Secretary,</i>
Harvey Newton Rice, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Jacob Moser, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :John Banksen Hewson,
Jared Turner,

William Alex. January,

George May.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Andrews, E. L.	Brothers, Henry	Henklebein, Adam
Arnold, Austin	Brown, James Thomas	Hollenbeck, Walter M.
Barling, Harry	Brown, Jeremiah Yancey	Holmes, Parker Butterfield
Beard, Elihu Barritt	Brownell, L. A.	Houghton, Henry Albert
Bennett, George Edmund	Dennis, William	Hoyt, Amasa James
Bishop, Samuel Addison	Dunahoe, Rollin	Jackson, William Andrew
Black, James Francis	Easterday, Solomon Warren	Johnson, Samuel William
Bodley, Thomas	Fallon, Thomas	Jones, Hugh Stevenson
Boben, Daniel	Gardner, David Boyd	Joyce, William W.
Bradlee, Ezra Smith	Garrard, Louis	Keith, John Matthew
Bradlee, Hugh Johnson	Gerdes, John Christian	Kupper, Benjamin
Breyfogle, William Osman	Hamilton, Alonzo Babbitt	Lenzen, Theodore

May, Orange Scott	Ohnstein, Oscar	Spring, Thaddeus Warsaw
Mayers, Christian	Peacock, Geo. Washington	Tobin, Michael
Menefee, Joseph Jefferson	Porter, John T.	Tully, Edward C.
McCluskey, Thomas	Reither, Jacob	Tully, Pleasant Briton
McDougall, Giles Eggleston	Rowley, Albanus Beliger	Vandine, E.
McKenzie, Donald	Rucker, Joseph Edmundson	Warthen, Albert S.
McMurtry, William Sharpe	Sargent, James Pattee	Watson, James Hodges
Mildrum, Charles R.	Sexton, William	Weller, Henry Olph
Morey, Harvey Chapin	Spence, Edward Fallis	Wells, Proctor R.
Mott, Richard Fitzallen	Sim, George	Weymouth, James L.—81.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS:

Lawrie, John	Marston, Samuel J.	Sturgis, Melvin Beach—4.
Lemon, James		

CYRUS CHAPTER, No. 15.

Yreka, Siskiyou County.

Stated Meetings, second Tuesday in each month.

OFFICERS :

John Morris Walbridge, <i>High Priest,</i>	Claus Schnackenberg, <i>Master of 3d. Vail,</i>
Louis Monet, <i>King,</i>	William Castleton Eddy, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Mitchell Alexander Brown, <i>Scribe,</i>	Jurgen Osterman, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Alonso Emery Raynes, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	William McConnell, <i>Treasurer,</i>
James Vance, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	John Waldo Thompson, <i>Secretary,</i>
John William Bird, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Joseph Lang, Jr., <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Daniel Ream,	James Vance,	Alonso Emery Raynes.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Burns, Albert Vanderbilt	Hessenauer, John Nicholls	Owens, Alexander
Carrick, Elijah	Horn, David	Pellet, Samuel
Champlin, Orin	Huseman, Louis	Pyle, Curtis Hooper
Crooks, Andrew Donaldson	Jones, John Johnson	Riley, Francis
Davis, Charles Henry	Knights, George Horace	Rogers, Franklin Augustus
Doten, Josiah Wilson	Lytle, James Alexander	Stewart, Samuel Jonathan
Dumas, Francis	McConaugh, James	Swain, Abisha
Fabricius, Andrew Jackson	Newton, Joel	Vogan, James Harper
Haserick, Anton	Nichols, Henry	Wadsworth, Henry—40.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:

Caro, Isidor	Fairchild, John Abraham—2.
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SUSPENDED FOR UNMASONIC CONDUCT :

Heard, Elijah Hice—1.

ST. JAMES CHAPTER, No. 16.**Placerville, El Dorado County.***Stated Meetings, first Wednesday in each month.***OFFICERS :**

George Heirn Gilbert, <i>High Priest</i> ,	Marco Verrozza, <i>Master of 3d Vail</i> ,
Charles Fitzgerald Irwin. <i>King</i> ,	Andrew Jackson Kennedy, <i>Mast. 2d Vail</i> ,
Charles Broad, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Robert Oliver Turnbull, <i>Master 1st Vail</i> ,
Charles Caleb Peirce, <i>Capt. of the Host</i> ,	Giusseppe Rolleri, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
George Franklin Mack, <i>Princ'l Sojourner</i> ,	Frederick Ferdinand Barss, <i>Secretary</i> ,
George Granville Blanchard, <i>R. A. Capt.</i> ,	Carlo Joseph Celio, <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests :

Frederick Ferdinand Barss,	George Heirn Gilbert,	Robert Chalmers.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Arvidson, Charles John	Dantz, Paul	Murry, Nelson Henry
Barlow, Geo. Washington	Gelwicks, Daniel William	Miller, Daniel Rice
Blakely, Album James	Hammel, Henry	Norton, Daniel E.
Boop, John Daniel	Hertel, Charles H. E.	Page, Horace Francis
Caystile, Thomas John	Hopkins, Lemuel B.	Plumado, Frank Hilair
Chalmers, George	Hume, James Bunyan	Taghtmier, Frederick
Chalmers, Robert	Levy, Joseph	Turman, Byron Isaac
Christie, Andrew Jackson	Lohry, Adam	Van Voorhies, Ralph J.—36.
Crowder, Jeremiah Jackson		

PAST MASTER :

Phillips, George W.—1.

WITHDRAWN :

Levan, Daniel Webster—1.

LIBANUS CHAPTER, No. 17.**Iowa Hill, Placer County.***Stated Meetings, Saturday of or next succeeding Full Moon.***OFFICERS :**

William Whipple Poole, <i>High Priest</i> ,	Chester Hackett, <i>Master of 3d Vail</i> ,
Edward George Spencer, <i>King</i> ,	Henry Stemple, <i>Master of 2d Vail</i> ,
John Henry Mitchell, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Willis Fish Gould, <i>Master of 1st Vail</i> ,
Adams Barret, <i>Captain of the Host</i> ,	John Schmitt, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
John Floyd Van Divier, <i>Prino'l Sojourner</i> ,	John Butler, <i>Secretary</i> ,
James Weeks Chinn, <i>Royal Arch Captain</i> ,	James Jasper Rich, <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests :

William Clinton Rich,	James Ross,	William Whipple Poole.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Cameron, William	Jones, Jehoakim	Mitchell, Edward
Eddings, George Franklin	Jones, Owen	Smith, Jonathan Mitchell
Develey, Henry K.	Just, John Peter	Smith, William
Hughs, Richard Rogers	Lewis, Robert	White, William K.—28.
Jacobs, James Munroe	Mill, William	

MARK MASTER :

Leighton, Aug. Lord—1.

WITHDRAWN:

Dods, James—1.

GRASS VALLEY CHAPTER, No. 18.

Grass Valley, Nevada County.

Stated Meetings, first Wednesday in each month.

OFFICERS :

Reuben Leech, <i>High Priest,</i>	William Gordon Hudson, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
James Gluyas, <i>King,</i>	John Lyons Sullivan, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Stephen Moore, <i>Scribe,</i>	Walter S. Stoddard, <i>Master of 1st Vail.</i>
Daniel Kendig, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	William Kenyon Spenser, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Jonathan Converse Clough, <i>P. Sojourner,</i>	Charles Henry Mitchell, <i>Secretary,</i>
Henry Randall Stevens, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	Alex. Burnie, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Alfred Barrett Dibble,	Alexander Buchanan Brady,	Reuben Leech.
William McCormick,		

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Anderson, Augustus Peyton	Fairhurst, Geo. Washington	Noel, James Clymer
Anderson, Robert	Farrell, James Alexander	Noonan, Patrick
Angove, John	Findley, Thomas	Peers, Joseph
Baun, John Frederick	Fricot, Jules	Price, Briscoe Hugh
Berg, Alfred	Gad, Bernard	Rhatigan, John
Binkleman, David	Goad, John Cornelius	Rowland, Louis Jerome
Boden, Thomas	Hand, William Dawson	Sanders, John
Bonivert, Paschal Joseph	Halleck, Joseph	Saxon, Edward
Bryan, John Albion	Hatch, Martin Payne	Saxon, James
Bryant, William Henry	Husom, Andrew	Simpson, James
Burns, John Thompson	Lathrop, Solomon	Smith, Charles Woolson
Catron, William	Lawrence, John	Stoddard, Alexander
Clift, William	Lowrey, Richard Daniel	Stoddard, Orlando
Coleman, Edward	Major, John Newton	Stoddard, Walter S.
Coleman, John Crisp	Michell, Thomas John	Stokes, William Charles
Coombe, William	Mitchell, William Henry	Vincent, George
Crocker, John Ross	Morris, Jacob	Walker, Thomas Rolla
Cross, Thomas	Moore, Stephen	Watt, William
Delano, Alonzo	Noall, James	Whiting, Edward Houston
Dorsey, John Jacob	Noel, Richard	—72.

PAST MASTER :

Mansau, Zephaniah—1.

MARK MASTERS :

Coffee, William R.

Weaver, George W.—2.

WITHDRAWN:

Grymes, George Anderson—1.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:

Roberts, Edmund Wilson—1.

DIED :

Nathan, Benjamin

Petijean, Marie—2.

TRINITY CHAPTER, No. 19.**Weaverville, Trinity County.***Stated Meetings, second and fourth Tuesdays in each month.***OFFICERS:**

Olo Christian Christiansen, <i>High Priest,</i>	Gotlieb Fred'k Diener, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Thomas Love Miller, <i>King,</i>	David Harden, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
James Madison Pickett, <i>Scribe,</i>	Peter Patterson Black, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Jacob Paulsen, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Louis Raab, <i>Treasurer,</i>
John Clifton Mason, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Morris Franklin Griffin, <i>Secretary,</i>
Joel Chilton Wood, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	John Aug. Charles Goering, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Wiley James Tinnin,

John Clifton Mason.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Given, William Cushing
McGillivray, Joseph

Musser, John

Ruch, Michael—17.

WITHDRAWN:

Sutherlin, William David—1.

FRANKLIN CHAPTER, No. 20.**Oroville, Butte County.***Stated Meetings, second and fourth Fridays in each month.***OFFICERS :**

Thomas Callow, <i>High Priest,</i>	Ralzemond Parker, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
St. John Jackson, <i>King,</i>	George Shear, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Thomas Jarreto Jenkins, <i>Scribe,</i>	David Bright Hays, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
John Boughton Hewitt, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	Frederick John Becker, <i>Treasurer,</i>
George H. Crossette, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Arthur McDermott, <i>Secretary.</i>
David King Perkins, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	John Constantine Mitchell, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Thomas Callow,
Charles Fayette Lott,

George Clement Perkins,
Arthur McDermott,

Thomas Jarrett Jenkins,
George Henry Crossette.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Beall, John
Block, Joseph
Branscomb, John
Buchanan, Philander
Burroughs, Charles
Chappell, Wallace Homer
Dyer, George Washington
Faulkner, Thomas
Gallinger, Abraham B.
Glass, Louis

Harris, Jahial
Heintz, Thibault
Hendricks, Thomas
Hida, Jehu
Hundley, Patrick Ogilby
Logan, James Columbus
Mitchell, John Constantine
Plum, Nathaniel Dunbar
Rollins, Daniel Fletcher

Ruggles, Elijah Starr,
Simons, Louis
Sparks, Ebenezer Morrison
Stearns, Amos Kies
Vance, James Monroe
Wagner, Frank
Wells, Michael Henry
West, Miers Barton
Young, Henry G.—41.

MARK MASTERS:

Byler, Eldridge Mallard Edmunds, William Kenney, John Leander —4.
Davis, Edward Jennings

PAST MASTERS :

Bean, Jackson Floyd, Tabor—2.

WITHDRAWN :

Scharline, Louis, P. M.*—1.

DROPPED FROM THE ROLL :

Spaulding, Andrew Jackson, M. M.—1.

SIERRA CHAPTER, No. 21.

Downieville, Sierra County.

Stated Meetings, Saturday of or next preceding Full Moon.

OFFICERS :

William Thompson Luther, <i>High Priest,</i>	Joseph Berg, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Benjamin Pauly, <i>King,</i>	Valentine Hartling, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Henry Haddon Purdy, <i>Scribe,</i>	George C. Martin, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Alexander Thom, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Ernest Kruse, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Henry Warner, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	William Ryan, <i>Secretary,</i>
Hiram George Wier, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Peter Thatcher, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Henry Warner,	William Thompson Luther.
Washington Cicero Doud,	Edwin Ransom Davis.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Abbey, George Henry	Crooks, James Brown	Parsons, Nathan
Asher, Alex. Branch	Davis, Willett Charles	Peacock, James Richard
Bernhard, Lewis	Eschbacher, Franz Antoine	Picken, Alexander
Blohm, John August	Grippen, Erastus Mortimer	Riley, William Eugene
Busch, August Christopher	Gunsolus, William Henry	Ross, John
Byington, Lewis	Hanley, William A.	Shawness, John
Clute, John Howard	Koutz, John	Stewart, Samuel Curtis
Corcoran, James	Langstaff, Matthew	Thomas, Henry
Crane, Lauren Elliot	McNaughton, James	Wilkins, William—42.
Creveling, Elemuel N. L.		

RESTORED :

Higgins, Edward—1.

WITHDRAWN :

Farish, William Adam	Higgins, Edward—2.
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SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:

Alleman, Samuel—1.

* Permission given to take the remaining degrees elsewhere.

PETALUMA CHAPTER, No. 22.**Petaluma, Sonoma County.***Stated Meetings, first and third Mondays in each month.***OFFICERS:**

Oscar Valentine Walker, <i>High Priest,</i>	James Huline Knowles, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
William Carpenter, <i>King,</i>	Achille Kahn, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Asahel Adams Bean, <i>Scribe,</i>	Alexander Lackey, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Hiram Fayette Taft, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Joseph Martin Bowles, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Benj. Franklin Tuttle, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Josiah Horace Crane, <i>Secretary,</i>
John Boyd Christie, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	James Singley, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

James Singley,	Benjamin Franklin Tuttle,
Thomas Jefferson Graham,	Oscar Valentine Walker.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Allen, William Thomas	Haubrick, Leonard	Polk, Charles Ephraim
Anderson, James Wright	Heineken, Hiram Albert	Preston, Richard Milne
Biehler, William	Hoffman, Adam Joseph	Ross, William
Carder, Dennison Delos	Huie, George William	Schroyer, Aaron
Clouetts, Henry Felix	Huie, John Thompson	Shaver, John
Cox, William Emery	Kuffel, Isaac	Shone, Thomas
Dreyfuss, Edward	Maguire, James Foster	Stockwell, Murenos Vincent
Fairbanks, Hiram Tobbert	Malott, Leonard Coatsworth	Tempel, Conrad
Farley, Francis Hall	Merritt, John	Thompson, Jefferson
Galvin, Micah Jonah C.	Miner, Welcome Ephraim	Todd, William
Gerlock, Lewis	Pierce, Abraham Jewell	Wands, James—47.
Goshen, Marcus Dyatheka		

PAST MASTER :

Giacomini, Natale—1.

MARK MASTER :

Keays, William Samuel—1.

RESTORED :

Huie, George William—1.

WITHDRAWN :

Reinhardt, Bernard	Anderson, William Lafayette	Jorgensen, Jess—3.
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SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Holden, William —1.

DIED :

Conrad, Simon

Bond, Joshua Lester—2.

OLIVER CHAPTER, No. 23.**Forest Hill, Placer County.***Stated Meetings, first Saturday after Full Moon.***OFFICERS:**

Ambrose Hall Cowden, <i>High Priest,</i>	Peyton Powell, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Thomas Norwood Hosmer, <i>King,</i>	Martin Barnum Tubbs, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Abram Breece, <i>Scribe,</i>	Jacob Warwick Byrd, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Joel Franklin Smith, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Jacob Lock Welker, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Franklin W. Allen, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	James Russell Glover, <i>Secretary,</i>
1 Tickle, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	—— ———, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Russell Parkhurst, James Russell Glover, Ambrose Hall Cowden.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Allen, John E.	Goff, Abner W.	Middleton, Joseph Trail
Borland, James	Hosmer, Daniel Mansfield	Morton, Geo. Washington
Carter, John Franklin	Huntley, Ashley	Penman, William Alex.
Cox, Richard	Johnson, Maguies	Shain, Warren Cassius
Cravens, Robert Oscar	Jones, John D.	White, Walter Raleigh
Davis, John Floyd	Krysher, William	Willard, Simeon Sylvester
Dewey, Charles Hitchcock	Lind, Charles	Williams, Richard—34.
Fast, John Henry Adolph		

WITHDRAWN:

Nelson, Edward Peter—1.

DIED:

Shields, William Sterrett—1.

LA FAYETTE CHAPTER, No. 24.

Camptonville, Yuba County.

Stated Meetings, Wednesday of or next preceding Full Moon.

OFFICERS:

Richard Munt, <i>High Priest,</i>	Silas Sherman Baker, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
William Walker Gibson, <i>King,</i>	Carlos Fred. Mansur, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
William Alexander Meek, <i>Scribe,</i>	David Calvin, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Charles O'Hara, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Josiah Perkins Brown, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Joshua Hutchings Variel, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	Richard Baker, <i>Secretary,</i>
Valentine Cook McMurray, <i>R. A. Capt.</i>	Peter Russell, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Josiah Perkins Brown, Joshua Hutchings Variel, Valentine Cook McMurray.
Richard Munt,

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Arnott, James	Isaacs, Elias	Spencer, Stephen
Baxter, John	Landecker, David Henry	Walton, Geo. Washington
Beaman, John Henry		—19.

DIED:

O'Rear, Benjamin Threlkheld—1.

GEORGETOWN CHAPTER, No. 25.

Georgetown, El Dorado County.

Stated Meetings, Saturday of or next succeeding Full Moon.

OFFICERS:

John Dodd Skinner, <i>High Priest,</i>	Giosni Bassi, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Solomon Adam Berry, <i>King,</i>	John Wade, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
James Moon, <i>Scribe,</i>	Geo. Washington Hunter, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Reuben Rich Willey, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Elijah Harper Watson, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Henry Warren Russell, <i>Princ'l Sojourner,</i>	Ellison Lassell Crawford, <i>Secretary.</i>
Isaac Priestly Jackson, <i>Royal Arch Capt.</i>	Charles Langley, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Richard Doncaster, Jr.
William Roush,

John Ernest Kunkler,
Samuel Doncaster,

Henry Warren Russell,
George Washington Hunter.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Alden, Samuel Jemmison
Anderson, William Carey
Armstrong, Thomas Z.
Benjamin, De Witt C.
Carter, John E.
Davison, John Paul Jones
Downs, John L.

Dunahoo, Wm. Washington
Epps, Tinsley Burton
Fillipini, Rinaldo
Fleishman, Jacob
Kelly, Harvey
Lagerson, Frederick
Lawyer, John Jay

Markle, John Alexander
McNevin, Henry Patrick
Nye, Samuel Porter
Pedrini, Cipriano
Pedrini, Massimino
Spencer, Willis Eugene
Wiley, Reuben Rich—36.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTER:

Maltby, Henry Grove—1.

PAST MASTER:

Jillson, Emmett—1.

WITHDRAWN:

Beattie, George

Hawks, Zeeb Cortez—2.

OAKLAND CHAPTER, No. 26.

Oakland, Alameda County.

Stated Meetings, first and third Thursdays in each month.

OFFICERS:

Thatcher Peter Wales, *High Priest*,
George Mansfield Blake, *King*,
James Lentell, *Scribe*,
William Burt Clayton, *Captain of the Host*,
Wm. Addison Walter, *Principal Sojourner*,
John Clarke Irwin, *Royal Arch Captain*,

Daniel Webster Pratt, *Master 3d Vail*,
Edwin Dunn Farrington, *Master 2d Vail*,
Frank Howard Brooks, *Master 1st Vail*,
Jeremiah Elken Whitcher, *Treasurer*,
Benjamin Akerly, *Secretary*,
John Ross, *Guard*.

Past High Priests:

Jeremiah Elken Whitcher,
Benjamin Akerly,

George Mansfield Blake,

Thatcher Peter Wales.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Ayres, William Henry
Bagge, Christian
Bagley, William Patrick
Beazell, James
Becht, Joseph
Block, Emanuel David
Carlton, George Henry
Carrick, John Willard
Chisholm, John
Cooms, Henry
Cordes, Paul Henry
Crane, William Watrous
Cushing, Clinton
Delger, Frederick
Dieves, Joseph
Elliott, Matthew
Evers, John Henry

Gabb, William Moor
Greenwood, Jacob
Grosso, Constantine
Haelke, Hellwig Leopold
Harwood, Wm. Douglass
Havens, Henry Herman
Henninger, Frederick
Hill, William Henry
Hillebrand, Henry
Hirshberg, Samuel
Hitchcock, Henry Elisha
Hobbs, Levit Moses
Howe, Micha Mead
Jansen, Ernest F. George
Kennedy, William
Mann, Benj. Franklin
Marsh, Chas. Pantier

Maloon, Benjamin
McMillen, Robert
Milligan, Henry Gilbert
Nolan, Stephen
Rector, Ledwell James
Reid, Charles Wood
Searing, William
Shattuck, Francis K.
Shimon, John Lewis
Smith, Elzaphan Ithamon
Snider, Lyman Nutt
Trogden, Willy H.
Warner, Franklin
Watson, William C.
Wheelan, Alanson
Zabel, Julius—62.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS:

Cunningham, Patrick James Tirrill, Lafayette Connelly, Charles—3.

WITHDRAWN:

Brown, Roswell Jackson Irwin, William H.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Bell, Samuel Bookstaver	Fenn, John Lewis	Tickner, Daniel
Chapman, Lemuel G.	Gieschen, John	Van Voorhies, William
Caddy, John	Kyte, James Carter	Watkins, Leonard—11.
Cooley, James Munroe	Minor, James Ogden	

DELTA CHAPTER, No. 27.

Auburn, Placer County.

Stated Meetings, Thursday of or next preceding Full Moon.

OFFICERS :

Charles John Hellwig, <i>High Priest,</i>	William Henry Mullen, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Edward Frederick Holly, <i>King,</i>	John McBride, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Gera Bretton Pedmore, <i>Scribe,</i>	Benj. Dulany Dunham, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
John Riggs Crandall, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Francis Antone Lux, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Benj. Franklin Myres, <i>Princ'l Sojourner,</i>	David Wlademer Lubeck, <i>Secretary,</i>
Adrian Stories Whittemore, <i>Royal A. Capt.</i>	Thomas Jamison, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

John Riggs Crandall, Benjamin Franklin Myres.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Applegate, Geo. Wash'n	Pratt, Jonathan Davis	Stonecipher, Isaac
Green, William George	Rusing, Edward S.	Waldron, Mahlon
Harper, Thomas Burell	Shepard, Michael Harper	Wardwell, Jarius Vespasian
Laven, James Andrew		—22.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTER:

Griffith, Griffith—1.

DROPPED FROM THE ROLL:

McGuire, Lucius, P. M.—1.

EXCLUDED:

Smith, Edward Guy—1.

STOCKTON CHAPTER, No. 28.

Stockton, San Joaquin County.

Stated Meetings, fourth Tuesday in each month.

OFFICERS:

Alexander Chalmers, <i>High Priest,</i>	James Hume, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Geo. Alexander McKenzie, <i>King,</i>	Joseph Fyfe, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
William Graham, <i>Scribe,</i>	Edward Richard Hedges, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Willard Franklin Fletcher, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	Lemuel Elisha Lyon, <i>Secretary,</i>
Philip Thomas Brown, <i>Pr. Sojourner.</i>	Henry Lewis Foote, <i>Chaplain,</i>
Geo. Falkenborough Smith, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	Julius Robert Steiny, <i>Organist,</i>
Isaac Lothrop, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>	Thomas Driver, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:Isaac Sutvene Titus, *P. G. H. P.*

Gilbert Burnett Claiborne,

William Abraham Davies, *P. G. H. P.*

Edward Richard Hedges,

Royal Bellows Parker,

Thomas Kent Hook.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Bargion, Peter	Fraser, Philip Barry	Roberts, John Arthur
Belding, Charles	Gardner, Thomas M.	Roseman, Ferdinand
Beritzhoff, Alex. Charles	Harrold, Nathaniel Siggons	Sargent, Henry Sumner
Bertrand, Louis	Hickman, Edward	Scott, Edward
Bond, Morris Hartwell	Hodgkins, Henry	Seilnacht, Frank
Brutschy, Charles	Houston, William James	Selden, James Richard
Burkett, Alexander	Ireland, Elias	Shaw, Henry Coffin
Caino, John	Jackson, John Robert Scott	Shurtleff, Geo. Augustus
Campbell, Wash. Lafayette	Jamieson, Andrew Richard	Smith, James Caldwell
Cavis, Joseph Mills	Kelsey, John Milton	Stevens, Eben Shepard
Choate, Thomas Baker	Keeler, William Henry	Stewart, Frank
Cooper, Calvin Savage	Kingsley, James Forman	Stockton, Elias Alonzo
Cutting, Lewis Morrison	Kirkland, William	Swain, Cornelius
Daniels, James Moore	Littlehale, James	Taylor, Hugh W.
Dorrance, Henry Tully	Milco, Nicola	Taylor, Ed. Hy. Courtney
Dyke, Ozro D.	Misener, Norman Sumner	Thresher, Minord Sprague
Eldridge, Edward Duane	Munter, August Fred Wm.	Tilghman, George
Eldridge, Samuel	Orr, Nelson Mills	Vance, John Anderson
Elliott, Lyman Weston	Peters, Joseph D.	Waterman, Sylvanus Dexter
Evans, George Spofford	Phelps, Joseph Larose	Wilson, Thomas—80.
Fanning, Howard Malcom		

WITHDRAWN:

Ivory, Charles Oscar

Sedgwick, John—2.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:

Barada, Laurent	Langford, Benj. Franklin	Wilhoit, Roley Early
Ely, Benj. Ezra Stiles	Newell, Timothy Winn	Zimmerman, John Andrew
Grissim, Henry	Stamper, William B.	—8.

DIED:

Mountjoy, George Lewis—1.

MANZANITA CHAPTER, NO. 29.*North San Juan, Nevada County.**Stated Meetings, first Friday in each month.***OFFICERS:**

John Storer McBride, <i>High Priest,</i>	John McCoy, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
George Cummings Spooner, <i>King,</i>	Joseph Gordon Dixon, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
John Thomas Morgan, <i>Scribe,</i>	Frederick Bank, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Reginald Powell, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	John Ambrose Seely, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Anson Burlingame Swan, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	Elon White, <i>Secretary,</i>
Frank Napoleon Morris, <i>R. A. Captain,</i>	Hans Ipson, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

John Ambrose Seely,
George Washington Perkins,

John Benedict Hunter,
John Storer McBride.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Allinburg, Charles	Dunning, William	McMurry, Robert
Atwater, Henry	Effinger, John Henry	McNulty, Henry
Ayer, Leonard Barney	Fitter, John	Netter, Nathan
Beard, James Edward	Freeman, Thomas	Noblet, William Berry
Bell, Vincent George	Furth, Simon	Ovett, Alonzo Willis
Buhring, Louis	Getchell, Hiram	Phillips, Reuben
Butler, Patrick Henry	Henderson, David	Redington, James
Cadwallader, Niram	Hillard, Samuel Robert	Rich, Henry Hudson
Chapman, Martin Van Buren	Huff, William	Stone, John
Chisholm, James	Inder, Job Staples	Treanor, James McWade
Cooke, Joseph Bailey	Jepson, Jacob	Trood, William
Cull, Henry	McCullough, James	Tucker, Joseph Bernard
Cunard, James Henry	McDonald, And'w Jackson	Westerfield, Wm. Jackson
Davis, William Morgan		54.

WITHDRAWN:

Cook, Joseph	Furth, Jacob	Harris, Elias Bramon—4.
Cull, Richard Camron		

DIED:

Pollard, Charles Joseph—1.

NAPA CHAPTER, No. 30.

Napa, Napa County.

Stated Meetings, second and fourth Fridays in each month.

OFFICERS :

Robert Crouch, <i>High Priest,</i>	William Bradford, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Beeby Robinson, <i>King,</i>	William Reed Brown, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
William Corb Schanck Smith, <i>Scribe,</i>	Henry Louis Armstutz, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Ralph Ellis, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Peter Van Bever, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Henry Hay Knapp, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Henry Conrad Horstmeyer, <i>Secretary,</i>
Daniel Burrell Parks, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Amos Smith Knapp, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Henry Hay Knapp,	Robert Crouch,	Ralph Ellis.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Andrews, William	Everts, Charles Nicholas	Ritchie, Silas
Blake, Charles Morris	Fisher, William Frederick	Sampson, Andrew
Briggs, Sebra	Ford, George Wellman	Sayward, James Wheaton
Carver, Dunsdill Burr	Getz, Marcus	Sterling, Robert Henry
Clark, Samuel Gilman	Greer, Thomas	Stillwagon, Wm. Wilson
Corwin, Louis Marion	Haas, David Leopold	Tucker, Thomas Jefferson
Davis, James Richardson	Holladay, Wm. Henry	Wines, Charles Buckley—35.
Ellis, Frederick Plummer	Mecklenburg, Joseph	

*Returns of Subordinate Chapters to the***MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS:**

Hoover, John

Jackson, John A.—2.

WITHDRAWN:

Olmstead, George Henry

Wright, John Ripley—2.

MARTINEZ CHAPTER, No. 31.**Martinez, Contra Costa County.***Stated Meetings, Monday of or next preceding Full Moon.***OFFICERS:**Thomas Allen Brown, *High Priest,*Lewis Cass Wittenmeyer, *King,*Solomon Newberger, *Scribe,*Wm. Henry Buckley, *Captain of the Host,*Isidor Weis, *Principal Sojourner,*Daniel Fraser, *Royal Arch Captain,*William Morrill Hale, *Master of 3d Vail,*John Slitz, *Master of 2d Vail,*Barry Baldwin, *Master of 1st Vail,*Simon Blum, *Treasurer,*George Atwood Sherman, *Secretary,*———, *Guard.***Past High Priests:**

Warren Brown,

Hiram Mills,

Lewis Cass Wittenmeyer.

Thomas Allen Brown,

William Morrill Hale,

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Del Place, Ernest

Fassett, Harry Wallbridge

Gallagher, Henry Clay

Girvan, William

Gray, James

Hard, Roswell Burt

Lambert, Hiram

Mathews, Felix A.

Moore, John Adams

O'Brien, John Conlin

Ruggles, Charles Augustus

Shepard, Mark

Shreeve, Benjamin

Troy, John Henry

Tucker, John

Turner, Benjamin Coffin

Wall, George

Wiggins, George—30.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS:

Fernandez, Bernardo

Walker, James Toomay—2.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:

Doughty, William—1.

LOS ANGELES CHAPTER, No. 33.**Los Angeles, Los Angeles County.***Stated Meetings, second Monday in each month.***OFFICERS:**Francis Pliny Fisk Temple, *High Priest,*Samuel Prager, *King,*Samuel Calvert Foy, *Scribe,*Abraham Wolf Edelman, *Capt. of the Host,*Thomas Edwin Rowan, *Princ'l Sojourner,*Moritz Morris, *Royal Arch Captain,*Geo. Rowan Butler, *Master 3d Vail,*Henry Dwight Barrows, *Master 2d Vail*Chas. Louis Ducommon, *Master 1st Vail,*Samuel Meyer, *Treasurer,*Wm. Henry Archibald Kidd, *Secretary,*Herman Neidecken, *Guard.***Past High Priests:**

Abraham Wolf Edelman,

John Quincy Adams Stanley,

Henry Sayre Orme.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Allanson, Horace Storey	Higby, Christ'r Columbus	Michaelis, Marcus
Bennett, Silas	Hinds, George	Narbonne, Nath'l Andrew
Buffum, William Mansfield	Holmes, Arthur Child	Parcels, Horatio Sutton
Burdick, Thomas H.	Holmes, James Gilmore	Phelps, Elihu Charles
Brunson, Anson	Horan, Andrew	Portugal, Adolph
Brunning, Henry Nicholas	Jackson, Robert Everett	Rich, Joseph Anderson
Campbell, A. Melancthon	Jacobs, Lewis	Reed, John
Casad, Thomas	Jacoby, Herman	Reiser, Theodore
Chapman, William Smyth	Jacoby, Nathan	Reynolds, John Jefferson
Cohen, Solomon	Jaeger, Lewis J. F.	Rolfe, Horace Cowen
Courtney, William	Johnson, Phillip Fred'k	Stanway, Thomas S.
Davis, Philip	Kohler, Henry	Sweetzer, Charles Corodin
Downey, John Gately	Lambourne, Fred.	Temple, Thomas Workman
Glenn, James Newton	Lazzarovich, John	Thompson, Peter
Goller, John	Leconvreur, Frank	Weston, Benjamin S.
Hammel, Henry	Levy, Michel	Workman, William—63.
Hewitt, Eldridge Ed.	Martin, William Thomas	

WITHDRAWN :

Bicknell, James Witherspoon	Eberling, Christian Ludovic	Sansevain, Michel—5.
Burns, James Franklin	Hamilton, Henry	

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:

Weill, Jacob—1.

ALTURAS CHAPTER, No. 34.

La Porte, Plumas County.

Stated Meetings, first Saturday in each month.

OFFICERS :

Peter R. Meikle, <i>High Priest,</i>	Jos. Luckman Jones, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
John Hiram Thomas, <i>King,</i>	George McLeod, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Mark Schofield, <i>Scribe,</i>	John Douglas, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Roderick Sutherland, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Benjamin Wilcox Barnes, <i>Treasurer,</i>
John Wesley Jenkins, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Dixon Brabban, <i>Secretary,</i>
Benj. Jacob Sammons, <i>Royal Arch Capt.</i>	Francis Joseph Kling, <i>'Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Abel McFarland,	Nathan Hosmer Stone,	Elias Anderson.
Benjamin Wilcox Barnes,		

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Brewster, Saml. Thompson	Meikle, William	Shultz, John Frederick
Chittenden, Henry Hatfield	Patterson, George	Small, Jacob
Clough, Greenleaf Greeley	Patterson, Robert Pagan	Smith, Charles
Descombes, Francis	Robson, August Frederick	Stone, Edwin
Hendell, Charles William	Ruppert, Charles	Stover, John Emmet
Hill, Maxwell Gaddis	Schofield, Miles	Ward, William—34.
Lloyd, John Preston		

WITHDRAWN:

Crew, Alexander Hill—1.

NAVAL CHAPTER, No. 35.**Vallejo, Solano County.***Stated Meetings, second Wednesday in each month.***OFFICERS :**

George Fayette Mallett, <i>High Priest</i> ,	Jefferson Thos. Crowley, <i>Master 3d Vail</i> ,
Frank Worthy Cushing, <i>King</i> ,	John Thomas Wells, <i>Master 3d Vail</i> ,
Frank Edward Brown, <i>Scribe</i> ,	George Wilkins Wilson, <i>Master 1st Vail</i> ,
Jonathan Bond, <i>Capt. of the Host</i> ,	Edward Thompson Starr, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Charles Daly, <i>Principal Sojourner</i> ,	Edward Albert Willatts, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Albion Paris Wilson, <i>Royal Arch Captain</i> ,	Henry Stahl, <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests :

John Mills Browne,	Philip Andrew Doyle,	Alex. Hopkins Hichborn.
Mattison Myers,	Osgood Hilton,	

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Benas, Benjamin	Hallin, Christian Theo. B.	Root, William Champion
Brown, Roswell Homer	Henderson, Orrington Lunt	Rosa, David Campbell
Brownlie, John	Higson, Frederick Delmer	Rothenbusch, Peter
Bruce, Henry	Hilborn, Samuel Greely	Rounds, George
Carter, James	Hilton, Eben	Rutherford, David
Carter, William	Holmes, Ensign Kimball	Snow, Hiram King
Ohandler, Robert	McCobb, Abiel Henry	Taylor, Isaac Byron
Drake, Frank	McLees, Edmund	Thompson, John
Edgcombe, Joseph Collins	Miller, Peter Brewer	Titcomb, John Locke
Frey, John	Miller, George Harrison	Toothaker, Harvey Purinton
Frisby, William Edward	Morse, Charles Alonzo	Topley, James
Garland, Francis	Phillips, James	Tripp, William Henry
Guffy, Alexander	Plaisted, George Pomroy	Voorhees, Albert Parsons
Gunthing, Alfred Henry	Powell, Abraham	Wilson, William Cason
Haas, Solomon Leon	Robinson, Jno. Buckingham	Wright, Gilbert Lafayette

—62.

PAST MASTERS :

Haskin, Enoch William	Williston, John Edward	Perkins, Alonzo—3.
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RESTORED :

Henderson, Orrington Lunt	Miller, Peter Brewer	Taylor, Isaac Byron—4.
Miller, George Harrison		

WITHDRAWN :

Hogan, James Rines	Porter, Thomas Alexander	Wilkins, Jas. Malcolm—4.
Hillier, Theodore Herman		

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:

Burmeister, Frederick Martin	Dyer, Columbia	Falls, Richard James—3.
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ALAMEDA CHAPTER, No. 36.

Oakland, Alameda County.

Stated Meetings, second and fourth Thursdays in each month,

OFFICERS :

Walter Laidlaw, <i>High Priest</i> ,	James Thomas Whedon, <i>Master 3d Vail</i> ,
Thomas Jefferson Arnold, <i>King</i> ,	Jesse Healy, <i>Master 2d Vail</i> ,
George Frederick Allardt, <i>Scribe</i> ,	William Noble Miller, <i>Master 1st Vail</i> ,
James Dods, <i>Captain of the Host</i> ,	Chas. Henri Frederick Braun, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
James Johnson Porter, <i>Prin. Sojourner</i> ,	James Edward Ingols, <i>Secretary</i> ,
George York Loring, <i>Royal Arch Captain</i> ,	Alanson Wheelan,* <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests :

Joseph Bonaparte Scotchler,	John Barton Harden,
Alpheus Fuller Williams,	Nathan Weston Spaulding

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Atchinson, Bezaleel Merritt	Graham, William Morrow	Pinney, George M.
Bartlett, Pliny	Gurnett, William James	Reichling, Francis
Batchelder, James	Hamilton, Laurentine	Rodolph, Frank Bequette
Bigelow, Henry Holmes	Harmon, John Brown	Rutherford, Chas. Boardman
Benton, John Elliott	Haven, Charles Dwight	Sherman, William
Case, Isham	Hazelhurst, William	Shorey, Albert
Chappellet, Felix	Howard, Charles Webb	Smith, James Dale
Collins, Albert Williams	Lagrange, Oscar Hugh	Tarbett, Foster Berry
Cunningham, Parlan R	Lamping, Peter A.	Tubbs, Hiram
Craib, William	Lufkin, Joseph	Van Dyke, Walter
Crawford, John William	Marston, Benjamin Sewall	Walker, George Russell
Cushing, John	Mather, Solon Henry	Ward, Robert
Duncan, James Wesley	Mathews, Henry Edward	Warner, Alex. Lafayette
Durant, Henry	Miller, J. Frank	Watson, John Braddock
Dusenberry, Myr. Thompson	Miller, Robert Baird	Webber, Mack
Dwinelle, John Whipple	Miller, William Henry	Webster, Edgar Jerome
Elliot, Washington	Miller, Peter	Wilson, William
Emery, Joseph Stickney	Murphy, Thomas John	Whitney, John James
Fairchild, O. Lewellyn C.	Palmer, Charles Theo. Hart	Winchester, John Packu
Felton, John Brook	Pardee, Enoch Homer	Younger, William John
Goodrich, John Van Buren	Pinkerton, Thomas Hamil	Yule, John—81.
Gordon, Jas. Smith Gilman		

PAST MASTER :

Moore, Abert Alphonzo—1.

MARK MASTER :

Chenhall, Nicholas—1.

WITHDRAWN :

Martin, Joseph

Whitney, George Edwin—2.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Campbell, Fred'k McLean	Hawkett, Arthur Wellington	Pasmore, Edw'd James—5.
Harden, John Barton	Laing, John	

EXCLUDED:

Havens, John Franklin—1.

SILOAM CHAPTER, No. 37.**Colfax, Placer County.***Stated Meetings, second and fourth Tuesdays in each month.***OFFICERS:**

Melvin Syms Gardiner, <i>High Priest</i> ,	Morris Lobner, <i>Master of 3d Vail</i> ,
James Beverly Hodgdon, <i>King</i> ,	James Cook, <i>Master of 2d Vail</i> ,
John Young Thomas, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Octavius King Cloudman, <i>Master 1st Vail</i> ,
Alexander Gibson Oliver, <i>Capt. of the Host</i> ,	William Barrows Hayford, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Wanton Alfred Himes, <i>Princ'l Sojourner</i> ,	William Bainbridge Storey, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Leopold Lobner, <i>Royal Arch Captain</i> ,	———, <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests:Jacob Hart Neff, *P. G. H. P.*

Melvin Syms Gardner.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Allen, Lorenzo Thomas	Kruger, William Henry	Peden, Albert Oliver
Blanchard, Nathan Weston	Le Kamp, John Henry	Provan, William
Bradley, Elisha Lafayette	Makins, William S.	Thomas, Ephraim Mariner
Cadjew, Leland	Murphy, Bernard	Tolman, Rufus Jenkins
Coffin, Isaac Tibbits	Nichols, Thomas Jefferson	Vincent, Nicholas
Endean, William	Osborn, Robert Smith	Voss, Louis
Holmes, James	Osborn, Watson Brown	Willard, David Wright—36.
Kopp, Charles Mann	Parks, James Harvey	

WITHDRAWN:

Hackett, Henry.—1.

SANTA CRUZ CHAPTER No. 38.**Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz County.***Stated Meetings, second Tuesday in each month.***OFFICERS :**

John Murray Brown, <i>High Priest</i> ,	Wm. Nelson Cummings, <i>Master 3d Vail</i> ,
Peter Richmond Hinds, <i>King</i> ,	Fred. Augustus Kilburn, <i>Master 2d Vail</i> ,
William Felker, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Haufman Green, <i>Master 1st Vail</i> ,
Bernhart Wise, <i>Captain of the Host</i> ,	Samuel Arnold Bartlett, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Henson Poland, <i>Principal Sojourner</i> ,	Edward Bender, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Edward Swift West, <i>Royal Arch Captain</i> ,	Edmund Wellington, <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests:

John Nelson Besse,

John Murray Brown.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Anthony, George	Fagan, Pierce Bye	Parsons, Jacob
Blackburn, Daniel Drew	Grant, John	Perky, Frekerick George
Blakeley, Samuel Wallace	Hall, Richard Harrison	Simons, Ephraim Israel
Chase, John Day	Hinds, David	Skinner, Henry
Collins, George Ulmer	Jones, Lorenzo Allen	Smith, John Morgan
Daubenbiss, John	Lake, George Peter	Thompson, Richard
Ely, William	Lincoln, Charles Henry	Williams, Edward Lawrence
Eitch, Edwin	McKiernan, Charles	—37.

DONNER CHAPTER, No. 39.

Truckee, Nevada County.

Stated Meetings, first and third Mondays in each Month.

OFFICERS:

Elle Ellen, <i>High Priest,</i>	George Schaffer, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Jacob Van Duser Hoag, <i>King,</i>	Ulysses Socrates Dewey, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Edward John Brickell, <i>Scribe,</i>	Aaron Berg, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Levi Daniel Butt, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Hiram Whitehead Roberts, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Jos. Dearborn Hilton, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	Chas. Fayette McGlashan, <i>Secretary,</i>
Giulio Reanda, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Charles Cortois, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priest:

James Henry Hoadley.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Adolphe, Julius	Frates, Frank	Marshall, James Edgar
Austin, Thomas	Gaylord, Eben Hills	Marzen, Joseph
Bacon, Benjamin Franklin	Hill, William Henry	Morrison, William
Bittancourt, Thomas Maria	Hogan, Ephraim	Parker, Samuel
Boyd, John	Holt, Andrew Jackson	Rabel, Frank
Brickell, Edward John	Hoy, James Wellington	Royal, George
Campbell, William Baker	Joesink, Bern. Hendricus	Schiveley, Albert Redstone
Clark, John P.	Johnson, Hogan	Shields, Michael—37.
Doan, Latimer Emery	Leach, David Walter	

PAST MASTERS:

Hutchinson, John T.

Towle, Hugh Park—2.

WITHDRAWN :

Hoadley, James Henry	Predy, John Thomas	Shaffer, George Henry
Park, Aaron Davis	Shaffer, Edward	Turner, Jacob Perry—6.

EXCLUDED :

Gray, William Cushman

Hamilton, Edward—2.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:

Bell, Robert

Jackson, Julius Dunham

Perrin, Edward Russell—3.

RED BLUFF CHAPTER, No. 40.

Red Bluff, Tehama County.

Stated Meetings, first and third Saturdays in each month.

OFFICERS:

Adoniram Judson Loomis, <i>High Priest,</i>	George Champlin, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Peter Buck Nagle, <i>King,</i>	John Steward Hall, <i>Master of 2d Vail.</i>
Jeremiah Schoenfeld, <i>Scribe,</i>	R. Hughes Campbell, <i>Master of 1st Vail.</i>
John Clements, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Henry Clay Richart, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Robert Hurd Blossom, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	Mayer Misch, <i>Secretary,</i>
Willam Boyd Parker, <i>Roy. Arch Captain,</i>	Ellis Reiser, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priest :

Adoniram Judson Loomis.

*Returns of Subordinate Chapters to the***ROYAL ARCH MASONS:**

Bettis, Rawson Southerland	Healy, Lucien Bonaparte	Pula, George
Cameron, James Strong	Jackson, Alexander Bell	Ryan, Thomas R.
Collins, Henry	Kinney, Silas Washington	Schoenfeld, Solomon D.
Cone, Joseph Spencer	Lewis, Edward Jefferson	Stokes, John Gardner
Copeland, Hosmer Curtis	Merrill, Nathaniel	Thomas, Samuel S.
Elkins, Henry Marrett	Miller, Francis	Vestal, Frank A.
Galland, Joseph Barnet	Morris, George Franklin	Wadsworth, Silas Marsden
Griggs, Sidney Allen	Phillips, John Waterman	Wilson, Henry Clay—35.

PAST MASTERS:

Beecher, Gustavus W.

Boice, Thomas—2.

TEMPLE CHAPTER, No. 41.**Watsonville, Santa Cruz County.***Stated Meetings, first Wednesday in each month.***OFFICERS:**

James Martin Rodgers, <i>High Priest,</i>	Michael Gagnon, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
James Waters, <i>King,</i>	Moses Burrill Howard, <i>Mast. of 2d Vail,</i>
James Ingham, <i>Scribe,</i>	Moses Morris, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
William Van Doren, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Jeremiah Sheldon Chapman, <i>Treasurer,</i>
William George Hudson, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	Charles Lewis Thomas, <i>Secretary,</i>
Alexander Chalmers, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Enos James Martin, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

James Martin Rodgers,

William Wallace Ross.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Abbot, Carlisle Stewart	Frieremuth, Hervy Weston	Putnam, Azro Carlton
Brewington, Geo. Hamilton	Howard, Volney	Rounds, Henry A.
Brown, James Hiram	Landrum, William Merimon	Stroud, Tracy
Brownstone, David	Look, Prince Helleman	Thrift, Alexander
Card, George Boardman	Mauk, Edwin Franklin	Wahler, Joseph Daniel
Craig, Andrew	Mitchell, Charles Edward	Warner, Henry Conrad
Dobbins, Hugh Hillis	Payne, John Sidney	Williamson, William—35.
Flint, Thomas		

EXCLUDED:

Lyster, Henry—1.

CHICO CHAPTER, No. 42.**Chico, Butte County.***Stated Meetings, second and fourth Mondays in each month.***OFFICERS:**

Carnot Courtland Mason, <i>High Priest,</i>	John Mortimer Garner, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
John Rose Robinson, <i>King,</i>	William Tomes Turner, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Garrett Wells Walraven, <i>Scribe,</i>	Edward Cuyler Nichols, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Rob't Emmett Warren, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	Charles Louis Stilson, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Watson King Springer, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	Charles Alton Miller, <i>Secretary,</i>
John Alphonzo Turner, <i>Royal Arch Capt.</i>	Ira Alston Wetherbee, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Charles Louis Pond,

Rufus Macagah Cochran

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Batchelder, Hiram Treat	Guyenn, Pleasant Medrian	Montgomery, John Newton
Bennett, Isaac Rugg	Hamblin, Geo. Lawrence	Murdoch, William
Bidwell, John	Hansen, Lauritz	Noonan, Jerry Childs
Bradley, William Leroy	Holbrook, Charles Henry	Sawyer, Alexander
Chapman, Augustus Harley	Holmes, Henry Preston	Sproul, Samuel Murray
Clark, James Birney	Houghton, Jos. Richardson	Stevens, Warren Charles
Colby, Gilbert Winslow	Hoole, Edward	Tanquary, Oliver Hazard P.
Crew, Alexander Hill	Hubbs, Benjamin Albert	Taylor, George Matteson
Daniels, Samuel	Ketchum, John Addison	Warren, Cyrus Greenleaf
Decker, James Madison	King, William Duncan	Wayland, Joseph Franklin
Durham, Wm. Wellington	Leininger, Obadiah	Wood, Jesse
Faulkner, Charles	Mitchell, William Erwin	Young, Alexander—53.
Gifford, Albert Judson	Montgomery, J. W. Bradford	

PAST MASTERS :

Graves, Fountain Columbus Moore, Thomas Jefferson Nelson, Charles Andrew—3.

WITHDRAWN :

Montgomery, Thomas Mitchell—1.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Fuller, Harrison William

Harmon, Gilford Lafayette.—2.

DIED :

Jones, Geo. Foster

Tilden, Wm. Peregrine—2.

EXCLUDED :

Parton, Huse Owen—2.

SOLANO CHAPTER, No. 43.

Suisun, Solano County.

Stated Meetings, Wednesday of or next preceding Full Moon.

OFFICERS:

Albert Fred. Knorp, <i>High Priest,</i>	Allen Charles Miller, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
John Maxwell Coghlan, <i>King,</i>	—— ———, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Stephen Kirby Nurse, <i>Scribe,</i>	George Adolphus Hoyt, <i>Mast. of 1st Vail,</i>
John Tyrell, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	William Kimball Hoyt, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Joseph Fairbanks Wendell, <i>Pr. Sojourner,</i>	Joseph Wolf Stamper, <i>Secretary,</i>
Jerome B. Richardson, <i>Roy. Arch Captain,</i>	William Gustavus Davissan, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

William Sewall Wells,

John Baptist Bope.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Bauman, Jacob Henry	Hunnewell, Freeman	Reeves, Columbus Palestine
Campbell, Samuel Duncan	Longmire, Daniel	Reeves, Duke Davis
Capell, James Smith	Marston, Jeremiah Hobbs	Robbins, Reuel Drinkwater
Chapman, Adeline	Miller, Meredith Rains	Robinson, John
Hitchcock, Abram Farr	Moore, Arthur	Smith, Sampson
Hinman, Justus Michael	Owens, Woodford, Jr.	Stewart, Samuel—33.
Hoyt, Julian Buel	Perkins, Eben Dorman	

*Returns of Subordinate Chapters to the***MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS:**

Hoover, John

Jackson, John A.—2.

WITHDRAWN:

Olmstead, George Henry

Wright, John Ripley—2.

MARTINEZ CHAPTER, No. 31.**Martinez, Contra Costa County.***Stated Meetings, Monday of or next preceding Full Moon.***OFFICERS:**Thomas Allen Brown, *High Priest,*Lewis Cass Wittenmeyer, *King,*Solomon Newberger, *Scribe,*Wm. Henry Buckley, *Captain of the Host,*Isidor Weis, *Principal Sojourner,*Daniel Fraser, *Royal Arch Captain,*William Morrill Hale, *Master of 3d Vail,*John Slitz, *Master of 2d Vail,*Barry Baldwin, *Master of 1st Vail,*Simon Blum, *Treasurer,*George Atwood Sherman, *Secretary,*———, *Guard.***Past High Priests:**

Warren Brown,

Thomas Allen Brown,

Hiram Mills,

William Morrill Hale,

Lewis Cass Wittenmeyer.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Del Place, Ernest

Fassett, Harry Wallbridge

Gallagher, Henry Clay

Girvan, William

Gray, James

Hard, Roswell Burt

Lambert, Hiram

Mathews, Felix A.

Moore, John Adams

O'Brien, John Conlin

Ruggles, Charles Augustus

Shepard, Mark

Shreeve, Benjamin

Troy, John Henry

Tucker, John

Turner, Benjamin Coffin

Wall, George

Wiggins, George—30.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS:

Fernandez, Bernardo

Walker, James Toomay—2.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:

Doughty, William—1.

LOS ANGELES CHAPTER, No. 33.**Los Angeles, Los Angeles County.***Stated Meetings, second Monday in each month.***OFFICERS:**Francis Pliny Fisk Temple, *High Priest,*Samuel Prager, *King,*Samuel Calvert Foy, *Scribe,*Abraham Wolf Edelman, *Capt. of the Host,*Thomas Edwin Rowan, *Princ'l Sojourner,*Moritz Morris, *Royal Arch Captain,*Geo. Rowan Butler, *Master 3d Vail,*Henry Dwight Barrows, *Master 2d Vail*Chas. Louis Ducommon, *Master 1st Vail,*Samuel Meyer, *Treasurer,*Wm. Henry Archibald Kidd, *Secretary,*Herman Neidecken, *Guard.***Past High Priests:**

Abraham Wolf Edelman,

John Quincy Adams Stanley,

Henry Sayre Orme.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Allanson, Horace Storey	Higby, Christ'r Columbus	Michaelis, Marcus
Bennett, Silas	Hinds, George	Narbonne, Nath'l Andrew
Buffum, William Mansfield	Holmes, Arthur Child	Parcels, Horatio Sutton
Burdick, Thomas H.	Holmes, James Gilmore	Phelps, Elihu Charles
Brunson, Anson	Horan, Andrew	Portugal, Adolph
Brunning, Henry Nicholas	Jackson, Robert Everett	Rich, Joseph Anderson
Campbell, A. Melancthon	Jacobs, Lewis	Reed, John
Casad, Thomas	Jacoby, Herman	Reiser, Theodore
Chapman, William Smyth	Jacoby, Nathan	Reynolds, John Jefferson
Cohen, Solomon	Jaeger, Lewis J. F.	Rolfe, Horace Cowen
Courtney, William	Johnson, Phillip Fred'k	Stanway, Thomas S.
Davis, Philip	Kohler, Henry	Sweetzer, Charles Corodin
Downey, John Gately	Lambourne, Fred.	Temple, Thomas Workman
Glenn, James Newton	Lazarovich, John	Thompson, Peter
Goller, John	Lecouvreur, Frank	Weston, Benjamin S.
Hammel, Henry	Levy, Michel	Workman, William—63.
Hewitt, Eldridge Ed.	Martin, William Thomas	

WITHDRAWN :

Bicknell, James Witherspoon	Eberling, Christian Ludovic	Sansevain, Michel—5.
Burns, James Franklin	Hamilton, Henry	

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:

Weill, Jacob—1.

ALTURAS CHAPTER, No. 34.

La Porte, Plumas County.

Stated Meetings, first Saturday in each month.

OFFICERS :

Peter R. Meikle, <i>High Priest,</i>	Jos. Luckman Jones, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
John Hiram Thomas, <i>King,</i>	George McLeod, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Mark Schofield, <i>Scribe,</i>	John Douglas, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Roderick Sutherland, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Benjamin Wilcox Barnes, <i>Treasurer,</i>
John Wesley Jenkins, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Dixon Brabban, <i>Secretary,</i>
Benj. Jacob Sammons, <i>Royal Arch Capt.</i>	Francis Joseph Kling, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Abel McFarland,	Nathan Hosmer Stone,	Elias Anderson.
Benjamin Wilcox Barnes,		

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Brewster, Saml. Thompson	Meikle, William	Shultz, John Frederick
Chittenden, Henry Hatfield	Patterson, George	Small, Jacob
Clough, Greenleaf Greeley	Patterson, Robert Pagan	Smith, Charles
Descombes, Francis	Robson, August Frederick	Stone, Edwin
Hendell, Charles William	Ruppert, Charles	Stover, John Emmet
Hill, Maxwell Gaddis	Schofield, Miles	Ward, William—34.
Lloyd, John Preston		

WITHDRAWN:

Crew, Alexander Hill—1.

NAVAL CHAPTER, No. 35.**Vallejo, Solano County.***Stated Meetings, second Wednesday in each month.***OFFICERS :**

George Fayette Mallett, <i>High Priest,</i>	Jefferson Thos. Crowley, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Frank Worthy Cushing, <i>King,</i>	John Thomas Wells, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Frank Edward Brown, <i>Scribe,</i>	George Wilkins Wilson, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Jonathan Bond, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	Edward Thompson Starr, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Charles Daly, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Edward Albert Willatts, <i>Secretary,</i>
Albion Paris Wilson, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Henry Stahl, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

John Mills Browne,	Philip Andrew Doyle,	Alex. Hopkins Hickborn.
Mattison Myers,	Osgood Hilton,	

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Benas, Benjamin	Hallin, Christian Theo. B.	Root, William Champion
Brown, Roswell Homer	Henderson, Orrington Lunt	Ross, David Campbell
Brownlie, John	Higson, Frederick Delmer	Rothenbusch, Peter
Bruce, Henry	Hilborn, Samuel Greely	Rounds, George
Carter, James	Hilton, Eben	Rutherford, David
Carter, William	Holmes, Ensign Kimball	Snow, Hiram King
Chandler, Robert	McCobb, Abiel Henry	Taylor, Isaac Byron
Drake, Frank	McLees, Edmund	Thompson, John
Edgcombe, Joseph Collins	Miller, Peter Brewer	Titcomb, John Locke
Frey, John	Miller, George Harrison	Toothaker, Harvey Purinton
Frisby, William Edward	Morse, Charles Alonzo	Topley, James
Garland, Francis	Phillips, James	Tripp, William Henry
Guffy, Alexander	Plaisted, George Pomroy	Voorhees, Albert Parsons
Gunning, Alfred Henry	Powell, Abraham	Wilson, William Cason
Haas, Solomon Leon	Robinson, Jno. Buckingham	Wright, Gilbert Lafayette

—62.

PAST MASTERS :

Haskin, Enoch William	Williston, John Edward	Perkins, Alonzo—3.
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RESTORED :

Henderson, Orrington Lunt	Miller, Peter Brewer	Taylor, Isaac Byron—4.
Miller, George Harrison		

WITHDRAWN :

Hogan, James Rines	Porter, Thomas Alexander	Wilkins, Jas. Malcolm—4.
Hillier, Theodore Herman		

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:

Burmeister, Frederick Martin	Dyer, Columbia	Falls, Richard James—3.
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ALAMEDA CHAPTER, No. 36.

Oakland, Alameda County.

Stated Meetings, second and fourth Thursdays in each month,

OFFICERS :

Walter Laidlaw, <i>High Priest</i> ,	James Thomas Whedon, <i>Master 3d Vail</i> ,
Thomas Jefferson Arnold, <i>King</i> ,	Jesse Healy, <i>Master 2d Vail</i> ,
George Frederick Allardt, <i>Scribe</i> ,	William Noble Miller, <i>Master 1st Vail</i> ,
James Dods, <i>Captain of the Host</i> ,	Chas. Henri Frederick Braun, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
James Johnson Porter, <i>Prin. Sojourner</i> ,	James Edward Ingols, <i>Secretary</i> ,
George York Loring, <i>Royal Arch Captain</i> ,	Alanson Wheelan,* <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests :

Joseph Bonaparte Scotchler,	John Barton Harden,
Alpheus Fuller Williams,	Nathan Weston Spaulding

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Atchinson, Bezaleel Merritt	Graham, William Morrow	Pinney, George M.
Bartlett, Pliny	Gurnett, William James	Reichling, Francis
Batchelder, James	Hamilton, Laurentine	Rodolph, Frank Bequette
Bigelow, Henry Holmes	Harmon, John Brown	Rutherford, Chas. Boardman
Benton, John Elliott	Haven, Charles Dwight	Sherman, William
Case, Isham	Hazelhurst, William	Shorey, Albert
Chappellet, Felix	Howard, Charles Webb	Smith, James Dale
Collins, Albert Williams	Lagrange, Oscar Hugh	Tarbett, Foster Berry
Cunningham, Parlan R	Lamping, Peter A.	Tubbs, Hiram
Craig, William	Lufkin, Joseph	Van Dyke, Walter
Crawford, John William	Marston, Benjamin Sewall	Walker, George Russell
Cushing, John	Mather, Solon Henry	Ward, Robert
Duncan, James Wesley	Mathews, Henry Edward	Warner, Alex. Lafayette
Durant, Henry	Miller, J. Frank	Watson, John Braddock
Dusenberry, Myr. Thompson	Miller, Robert Baird	Webber, Mack
Dwinelle, John Whipple	Miller, William Henry	Webster, Edgar Jerome
Elliot, Washington	Miller, Peter	Wilson, William
Emery, Joseph Stickney	Murphy, Thomas John	Whitney, John James
Fairchild, O. Lewellyn C.	Palmer, Charles Theo. Hart	Winchester, John Packu
Felton, John Brook	Pardee, Enoch Homer	Younger, William John
Goodrich, John Van Buren	Pinkerton, Thomas Hamil	Yule, John—81.
Gordon, Jas. Smith Gilman		

PAST MASTER :

Moore, Abert Alphonzo—1.

MARK MASTER :

Chenhall, Nicholas—1.

WITHDRAWN :

Martin, Joseph

Whitney, George Edwin—2.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Campbell, Fred'k McLean	Hawkett, Arthur Wellington	Pasmore, Edw'd James—5.
Harden, John Barton	Laing, John	

EXCLUDED:

Havens, John Franklin—1.

GRAND OFFICERS

Elected since the Organization of the Grand Chapter, July 28, A. L. 2384.

1854.

CHARLES M. RADOLIFF, *Grand High Priest.* A. B. HOY, *Grand King.*
JOHN D. CREIGH, *Dep. Grand High Priest.* HUGH G. PLATT, *Grand Scribe.*

1855.

JOHN D. CREIGH, . . . *Grand High Priest.* WILLIAM W. TRAYLOR, *Grand King.*
ISAAC DAVIS, . . . *Dep. Grand High Priest.* LEVERETT BRADLEY, *Grand Scribe.*

1856.

ORANGE H. DIBBLE, . . . *Grand High Priest.* WHITING G. WEST, *Grand King.*
WM. W. TRAYLOR, *Dep. Grand High Priest.* *JAMES A. JACKSON, *Grand Scribe.*

1857.

WILLIAM W. TRAYLOR, *Grand High Priest.* WHITING G. WEST, *Grand King.*
THOS. H. CASWELL, *Dep. Grand High Priest.* *JAMES A. JACKSON, *Grand Scribe.*

1858.

THOMAS H. CASWELL, *Grand High Priest.* *JAMES A. JACKSON, *Grand King.*
WHITING G. WEST, *Dep. Grand High Priest.* *HENRY HARE HARTLEY, . . . *Grand Scribe.*

1859.

WHITING G. WEST, . . . *Grand High Priest.* AARON D. PARK, *Grand King.*
*H. H. HARTLEY, . . *Dep. Grand High Priest.* *LEWIS REYNOLDS, *Grand Scribe.*

1860.

*HENRY H. HARTLEY, . . *Grand High Priest.* JAMES W. BICKNELL, *Grand King.*
ADOLPHUS HOLLUB, *Dep. Grand High Priest.* EZRA HOWARD VAN DECAR, *Grand Scribe.*

1861.

*HENRY H. HARTLEY, . . *Grand High Priest.* EZRA HOWARD VAN DECAR, *Grand King.*
ADOLPHUS HOLLUB, *Dep. Grand High Priest.* JOHN KIRKPATRICK, *Grand Scribe.*

1862.

ADOLPHUS HOLLUB, . . *Grand High Priest.* JOHN KIRKPATRICK, *Grand King.*
EZRA H. VAN DECAR, . . *Dep. Gr. High Priest.* CHARLES MARSH, *Grand Scribe.*

1863.

EZRA H. VAN DECAR, . . *Grand High Priest.* CHARLES MARSH, *Grand King.*
JOHN KIRKPATRICK, . . *Dep. Gr. High Priest.* WILLIAM A. DAVIES, *Grand Scribe.*

1864.

*ISAAC DAVIS, *Grand High Priest.* CHARLES MARSH, *Grand King.*
JOHN KIRKPATRICK, *Dep. Gr. High Priest.* WILLIAM A. DAVIES, *Grand Scribe.*

1865.

JOHN KIRKPATRICK, . . *Grand High Priest.* WILLIAM A. DAVIES, *Grand King.*
CHARLES MARSH, *Dep. Grand High Priest.* ISAAC S. TITUS, *Grand Scribe.*

* Deceased.

List of Grand Officers.

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1866.

CHARLES MARSH,.....*Grand High Priest.* ISAAC S. TITUS,.....*Grand King.*
WM. A. DAVIES,..*Dep. Grand High Priest.* JOHN W. HARVILLE,.....*Grand Scribe.*

1867.

ISAAC S. TITUS,.....*Grand High Priest.* JOHN W. HARVILLE,.....*Grand King.*
*JAS. A. JACKSON,..*Dep. Gr. High Priest.* GEORGE T. GRIMES,.....*Grand Scribe.*

1868.

JOHN W. HARVILLE,..*Grand High Priest.* JAS. LAWRENCE ENGLISH,..*Grand King.*
GEORGE T. GRIMES, *Dep. Gr. High Priest.* JACOB H. NEFF,.....*Grand Scribe.*

1870.

GEORGE T. GRIMES,..*Grand High Priest.* JACOB H. NEFF,.....*Grand King.*
JAS. LAWR. ENGLISH, .*Dep. Gr. H. Priest.* STEPHEN WING,.....*Grand Scribe.*

1871.

JAS. L. ENGLISH,....*Grand High Priest.* STEPHEN WING,.....*Grand King.*
JACOB H. NEFF,.....*Dep. Gr. H. Priest.* JOSEPH ISAACS,.....*Grand Scribe.*

1872.

JACOB H. NEFF,*Grand High Priest.* WM. THOMAS REYNOLDS,....*Grand King.*
*JOSEPH ISAACS,*Dep. Gr. H. Priest.* WM. ALEX. JANUARY,....*Grand Scribe.*

1873.

WM. A. DAVIES,....*Grand High Priest.* WM. THOMAS REYNOLDS,..*Grand King.*
*JOSEPH ISAACS,.....*Dep. Gr. H. Priest.* WM. ALEXANDER JANUARY,. *Grand Scribe.*

1874.

WM. ALEX. JANUARY,*Grand High Priest.* JOHN MILLS BROWNE,.....*Grand King.*
WM. T. REYNOLDS,..*Dep. Gr. H. Priest.* HENRY HAY KNAPP,.....*Grand Scribe.*

*Deceased.

GRAND CHAPTERS

IN COMMUNICATION WITH THE

GRAND CHAPTER OF CALIFORNIA.

Grand Chapters.	Grand Secretaries.	Residence.
ALABAMA,	DANIEL SAYRE,	Montgomery.
ARKANSAS,	LUKE E. BARBER,	Little Rock.
CANADA,	THOMAS BIRD HARRIS,	Hamilton.
CONNECTICUT,	JOSEPH K. WHEELER,	Hartford.
DELAWARE,	J. P. ALLMOND,	Wilmington.
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,	L. G. STEPHENS,	Washington.
ENGLAND AND WALES,	JOHN HERVEY,	London.
FLORIDA,	W. M. MCINTOSH,	Pensacola.
GEORGIA,	J. EMMETT BLACKSHEAR,	Macon.
ILLINOIS,	JAMES H. MILES,	Chicago.
INDIANA,	JOHN M. BRAMWELL,	Indianapolis.
IOWA,	WILLIAM B. LANGRIDGE,	Muscatine.
KANSAS,	ERASMUS T. CARR,	Leavenworth.
KENTUCKY,	JOHN M. S. MCCORKLE,	Louisville.
LOUISIANA,	JAMES C. BATCHELOR,	New Orleans.
MAINE,	IRA BERRY,	Portland.
MARYLAND,	WILLIAM A. WENTZ,	Baltimore.
MASSACHUSETTS,	Z. H. THOMAS,	Cambridgeport.
MICHIGAN,	J. EASTMAN JOHNSON,	Centreville.
MINNESOTA,	E. D. B. PORTER,	St. Paul.
MISSISSIPPI,	J. L. POWER,	Jackson.
MISSOURI,	GEO. FRANK GOULEY,	St. Louis.
NEBRASKA,	DANIEL H. WHEELER,	Plattsmouth.
NEW HAMPSHIRE,	ABEL HUTCHINS,	Concord.
NEW JERSEY,	THOMAS J. CORSON,	Trenton.
NEW YORK,	CHRISTOPHER G. FOX,	Buffalo.
NORTH CAROLINA,	T. M. GARDNER,	Wilmington.
NOVA SCOTIA,	JAMES GOSSIP,	Halifax.
OHIO,	JAMES NESBIT,	Cincinnati.
OREGON,	R. P. EABHEART,	Salem.
PENNSYLVANIA,	JOHN THOMSON,	Philadelphia.
RHODE ISLAND,	GEORGE H. BURNHAM,	Providence.
SOUTH CAROLINA,	MYER B. MOSES,	Sumter.
TENNESSEE,	JOHN FRIZELL,	Nashville.
TEXAS,	ROBERT BREWSTER,	Houston.
VERMONT,	W. H. S. WHITCOMB,	Burlington.
VIRGINIA,	JOHN DOVE,	Richmond.
WEST VIRGINIA,	ODELL S. LONG,	Wheeling.
WISCONSIN,	WILLIAM T. PALMER,	Milwaukee.

GRAND CONVENTION
OF THE
ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTS,
OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL CONVOCATION.

The fifteenth Annual Grand Convention of the Order of High Priests of the State of California, assembled at the Masonic Temple, in the city of San Francisco, on Wednesday, the fifteenth day of April, 1874, at eight o'clock, P. M.

There were present the following

OFFICERS:

The M.: E.: SAMUEL GRAVES,..... *President* ;
" R.: E.: ALVIN BACON PRESTON,..... *Chaplain* ;
" R.: E.: CHARLES MARSH,..... *Treasurer* ;
" R.: E.: THEODORE EDWARD SMITH,..... *Recorder* ;
" R.: E.: WILLIAM ABRAHAM DAVIES,..... *Master of Ceremonies* ;
" R.: E.: JOSEPH BONAPARTE SCOTCHLER,..... *Conductor* ;
" R.: E.: CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,..... *Herald* :

Also Companions THOMAS ALLEN BROWN, JOHN NELSON BESSE, JAMES RUSSELL GLOVER, HIRAM THEOOP GRAVES, JOHN WILLIAM HARVILLE, ADONIRAM JUDSON LOOMIS, GEORGE MAY, JACOB HART NEFF, HENRY SAYRE ORME, WILLIAM MUNROE PETRIE, JAMES MARTIN RODGERS, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN TUTTLE, THATCHER PETER WALES.

The M.: E.: President made the following appointment, *pro tempore* :—

Comp. CHARLES MARSH..... *Vice President* ;

And the Convention was opened in *Due Form*.

The reading of the minutes of the proceedings had at the last Annual Convention was dispensed with, the members being furnished with printed copies thereof.

Petitions were received from the following named companions :—

SAMUEL STEINHEIM,.....	High Priest, San Francisco Chapter, No. 1
ALFRED COOLIDGE WAITE,.....	" " California " " 5
TIMOTHY SAGE,.....	" " Benicia " " 7
LOUIS WELLENDOFF,.....	" " Shasta " " 9
WILBUR JUSTIN WILCOX,.....	" " Howard " " 14
OLO CHRISTIAN CHRISTIANSEN,.....	" " Trinity " " 19
AMBROSE HALL CORODEN,.....	" " Oliver " " 23
JOHN DODD SKINNER,.....	" " Georgelown " " 25
CHARLES J. HELLWIG,.....	" " Delta " " 27
ALEXANDER CHALMERS,.....	" " Stockton " " 28
PETER R. MEIKLE,.....	" " Alturas " " 34
GEORGE FAYETTE MALLETT,.....	" " Naval " " 35
JOHN MURRAY BROWN,.....	" " Santa Cruz " " 38
ELLE ELLEN,.....	" " Donner " " 39
CARNOT COURTLAND MASON,.....	" " Chico " " 42
ALBERT FREDERICK KNORP,.....	" " Solano " " 43
ANDREW HENDERSON BRODER,.....	" " Visalia " " 44
ADOLPHUS LEIGH FITZGERALD,....	" " Santa Rosa " " 45

Who were severally elected to receive the Order of High Priest.

Companion ANDREW HENDERSON BRODER was then introduced and received the Order of High Priest.

The Convention then adjourned until Thursday evening, April 16th.

THURSDAY, April 16th, 1874.

The Grand Convention met at Chapter Hall, Masonic Temple, this day, at 7½ P. M.—the R. . . E. . Comp. WILLIAM WILSON TRAYLOR presiding.

The following named companions were then introduced and received the Order of High Priest:

SAMUEL STERNHEIM, ALFRED COOLIDGE WAITE, TIMOTHY SAGE, LOUIS WELLENDOFF, WILBUR JUSTIN WILCOX, OLO CHRISTIAN CHRISTIANSEN, JOHN DODD SKINNER, CHARLES J. HELLWIG, ALEXANDER CHALMERS, PETER R. MEIKLE, ELLE ELLEN, CARNOT COURTLAND MASON, ALBERT FREDERICK KNORP, ADOLPHUS LEIGH FITZGERALD.

The following named companions were then elected officers for the ensuing year :

The M. . E. . WILLIAM WILSON TRAYLOR,..... *President ;*
 " R. . E. . CHARLES MARSH,..... *Vice-President ;*
 " R. . E. . ALVIN BACON PRESTON,..... *Chaplain ;*
 " R. . E. . HIRAM THEOOP GRAVES,..... *Treasurer ;*
 " R. . E. . THEODORE EDWARD SMITH,..... *Recorder ;*
 " R. . E. . JOHN WILLIAM HARVILLE,..... *Master of Ceremonies ;*
 " R. . E. . WILLIAM ABRAHAM DAVIES,..... *Conductor ;*
 " R. . E. . CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,..... *Herald ;*
 " R. . E. . ALEX. GURDON ABELL,..... *Steward.*

There being no further business, the Convention was closed in Due form:

ATTEST :

THEODORE EDWARD SMITH, *Recorder.*

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

OF THE

GRAND CONVENTION OF HIGH PRIESTS.

OFFICERS:

William Wilson Traylor, <i>President</i> ,	Theodore Edward Smith, <i>Recorder</i> ,
Charles Marsh, <i>Vice-President</i> ,	John Wm. Harville, <i>Master of Ceremonies</i> ,
Alvin Bacon Preston, <i>Chaplain</i> ,	Wm. Abraham Davies, <i>Conductor</i> ,
Hiram Throop Graves, <i>Treasurer</i> ,	Charles Louis Wiggin, <i>Herald</i> ,
Alexander Gurdon Abell, <i>Steward</i> .	

MEMBERS:

Akerly, Benjamin	Foster, Francis	Lyon, William Henry
Anderson, Elias	Gardner, Melvin Tyrus	Leech, Reuben
Bacon, Eli Griffith	Gilbert, George Heirn	Loomis, Adoniram Judson
Barss, Frederick Ferdinand	Glover, James Russell	May, George
Bicknell, Jas. Witherspoon	Goss, Leonard	Mason, John Clifton
Blair, Charles Macmurdo	Graves, Samuel	Mason, Carnot Courtland
Bond, Joshua Lester	Graham, Thomas Jefferson	McCormick, William
Brady, Alex. Buchanan	Grimes, George Tuttle	McFarlan, Abel
Brown, Josiah Perkins	Harden, John B.	McMurry, Valentine
Brown, Thomas Allen	Hayes, Russell Thayer	Menzies, Stewart
Browne, John Mills	Hayward, Alvinza	Meikle, Peter R.
Broder, Andrew Henderson	Hedges, Edward Richard	Millington, John
Burke, John Martin	Hewson, John Bankson	Myres, Benjamin Franklin
Bystle, David Porter	Hilton, Osgood	Myrick, Milton Hills
Besse, John Nelson	Hollub, Adolphus	Munt. Richard
Blake, George Mansfield	Hoadley, James Henry	McBride, John Storer
Callow, Thomas	Hichborn, Alex. Hopkins	Neff, Jacob Hart
Caswell, Thomas Hubbard	Hunter, Geo. Washington	Neville, John M.
Chalmers, Alexander	January, William Alexander	Newton, William Davis
Christiansen, Olo Christian	Joy, Alexander Cartwright	O'Rear, Benjamin Threlkeld
Claiborne, Gilbert Burnett	Jump, Alembly	Orme, Henry Sayre
Cohn, Louis	Kingsley, James Forman	Parkhurst, Russell
Crandall, John Riggs	Kirkpatrick, John	Park, Aaron Davis
Creigh, John Dunbar	Knapp, Henry Hay	Peck, Henry
Crouch, Robert	Knox, William Franklin	Perkins, Geo. Washington
Davis, Edwin Ransom	Knorp, Albert Frederick	Prassa, Francis Anthony
Dobrowsky, Adolph	Kunkler, John Ernest	Petrie, William Munroe
Dods, James	Kyle, Thomas	Pond, Charles Lewis
Doncaster, Richard, Jr.	Laidley, James	Raynes, Alonzo Emery
Doncaster, Samuel	Lanphier, Gilbert	Ream, Daniel
Ellis, Ralph	Lawrence, William Lee	Reynolds, Wm. Thomas
English, James Lawrence	Lawson, Samuel Powell	Rich, William Clinton
Ellen, Elle	Lott, Charles Fayette	Rolfe, Tallman Hathaway
Fitzgerald, Adolphus Leigh	Luther, Wm. Thompson	Rodgers, James Martin

Ross, James	Sternheim, Samuel	Walker, George Russell
Routh, William	Stone, Charles E.	Warner, Henry
Ryan, William Henry	Stone, Nathan Hosmer	Wells, William Sewall
Rodgers, Edwin Aldrich	Skinner, John Dodd	Weymouth, James Lambert
Russell, Henry Warren	Spear, Willard Smith	Wellendorf, Louis
Sage, Timothy	Scotchler, Joseph Bonaparte	Whitcher, Jeremiah Elken
Seely, John Ambrose	Tinnin, Wiley James	Wilcox, Wilbur Justin
Siesbittel, Alexander	Titus, Isaac Sutvene	Williams, Alpheus Fuller
Singley, James	Turner, Jared	Wing, Stephen
Snow, John Francis	Tuttle, Benjamin Franklin	Winterburn, Geo. Howard
Spanlding, Nathan Weston	Waite, Alfred Coolidge	Wales, Thatcher Peter
Stanley, Jno. Quincy Adams		

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Address of the Grand High Priest:

WILLIAM ALEX. JANUARY, San Jose.

Address of the Grand Secretary:

CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, San Francisco.

Address of the Grand Lecturer:

THOS. HUBBARD CASWELL, Nevada.

ADDRESS CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE:

CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, San Francisco.

NOTICE.

The Twenty-first Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of California will be holden at the Masonic Temple, in the city of San Francisco, commencing on the second Tuesday in April, A. I. 2405, A. D. 1875.

CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,
Grand Secretary.

75
PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND CHAPTER

OF

Royal Arch Masons

OF THE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

SAN FRANCISCO:
FRANK EASTMAN, PRINTER, 509 CLAY STREET.
1875.

Grand Chapter of California.

I, CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of California, do hereby certify that the following pages contain a true and faithful transcript of the proceedings of that Body, at its Twenty-first Annual Convocation, commenced at the city of San Francisco on Tuesday, the thirteenth day of April, A. D. 1875, A. I. 2405, and of the returns of the subordinate Chapters and other matters authorized to be published.



In Testimony Whereof,

I have hereunto appended my official signature, and have affixed the Seal of the Grand Chapter of California, this twenty-first day of April, A. D. 1875, A. I. 2405.

Chas. Louis Wiggin
Grand Secy.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND CHAPTER
OF
ROYAL ARCH MASONS
OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA,
AT ITS
TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL CONVOCATION,
HELD AT THE
Masonic Temple, in the City of San Francisco ;
COMMENCED ON
TUESDAY, APRIL 13, A. D. 1875, A. I. 2405,
AND TERMINATED ON
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, A. D. 1875, A. I. 2405.

SAN FRANCISCO:
FRANK EASTMAN, PRINTER, 509 CLAY STREET.
1875.

GRAND OFFICERS
OF THE
Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons
OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

*For the year commencing April, A. I. 2405, and ending
April, A. I. 2406.*

M.: E.: WM. THOMAS REYNOLDS, .GRAND HIGH PRIEST, *San Francisco ;*
R.: E.: ALEX. GURDON ABELL, . . . DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIEST, . *San Francisco ;*
R.: E.: HENRY HAY KNAPP, GRAND KING, *Napa ;*
R.: E.: NATHAN W. SPAULDING, . GRAND SCRIBE, *Oakland ;*
R.: E.: HIRAM THROOP GRAVES, . GRAND TREASURER, *San Francisco ;*
R.: E.: CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, . . GRAND SECRETARY, *San Francisco ;*
E.: SAMUEL GRAVES, GRAND CHAPLAIN, *San Francisco ;*
E.: WILEY JAMES TINNIN, GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE HOST, *Weaverville ;*
E.: HENRY SAYRE ORME, GRAND ROYAL ARCH CAPTAIN, *Los Angeles ;*
Comp. SAMUEL DAVID MAYER, . . GRAND ORGANIST, *San Francisco ;*
" IRA COLBURN ROOT, GRAND GUARD, *San Francisco.*

GRAND LECTURER :
M.: E.: THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL, *Nevada.*

GRAND CHAPTER

OF

ROYAL ARCH MASONS

OF THE

State of California.

TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL CONVOCATION.

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of California commenced its Twenty-first Annual Convocation at the Masonic Temple, in the city of San Francisco, on Tuesday, the thirteenth day of April, A. D. 1875, A. I. 2405, at ten o'clock, A. M.

Upon calling the roll of members there were found present the following --

GRAND OFFICERS :

The *M. E.* WILLIAM ALEXANDER JANUARY,.....*Grand High Priest*;
 " *M. E.* WILLIAM THOMAS REYNOLDS,.....*Dep. Grand High Priest*;
 " *R. E.* HENRY HAY KNAPP,.....*Grand Scribe*;
 " *R. E.* HIRAM THROPP GRAVES,.....*Grand Treasurer*;
 " *E.* CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,.....*Grand Secretary*;
 " *E.* THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL,.....*Grand Lecturer*;
 " *E.* NATHAN WESTON SPAULDING,.....*Grand Capt. of the Host*;
 " *E.* WILEY JAMES TINNIN,.....*Grand Royal Arch Capt.*;
Comp. SAMUEL DAVID MAYER,.....*Grand Organist*;
 " IRA COLBURN ROOT,.....*Grand Guard.*

PAST GRAND OFFICERS :

The *M. E.* JOHN DUNBAR OREIGH,.....*Past Grand High Priest*;
 " *M. E.* THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL,....." " " "
 " *M. E.* ADOLPHUS HOLLUB,....." " " "
 " *M. E.* JOHN KIRKPATRICK,....." " " "
 " *M. E.* CHARLES MARSH,....." " " "
 " *M. E.* ISAAC SUTVENE TITUS,....." " " "
 " *M. E.* GEORGE TUTTLE GRIMES,....." " " "
 " *M. E.* JAMES LAWRENCE ENGLISH,....." " " "
 " *M. E.* JACOB HART NEFF,....." " " "
 " *R. E.* STEPHEN WING,.....*Past Grand King* :

Address of the Grand High Priest:

WILLIAM ALEX. JANUARY, San Jose.

Address of the Grand Secretary:

CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, San Francisco.

Address of the Grand Lecturer:

THOS. HUBBARD CASWELL, Nevada.

ADDRESS CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE:

CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, San Francisco.

NOTICE.

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CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,
Grand Secretary.

75
PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND CHAPTER

OF

Royal Arch Masons

OF THE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

SAN FRANCISCO :
FRANK EASTMAN, PRINTER, 509 CLAY STREET.

1875.

Grand Chapter of California.

I, CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of California, do hereby certify that the following pages contain a true and faithful transcript of the proceedings of that Body, at its Twenty-first Annual Convocation, commenced at the city of San Francisco on Tuesday, the thirteenth day of April, A. D. 1875, A. I. 2406, and of the returns of the subordinate Chapters and other matters authorized to be published.



In Testimony Whereof,

I have hereunto appended my official signature, and have affixed the Seal of the Grand Chapter of California, this twenty-first day of April, A. D. 1875, A. I. 2406.

Chas. Louis Wiggin
Grand Secy.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND CHAPTER
OF
ROYAL ARCH MASONS
OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA,
AT ITS
TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL CONVOCATION,
HELD AT THE
Masonic Temple, in the City of San Francisco ;
COMMENCED ON
TUESDAY, APRIL 13, A. D. 1875, A. I. 2405,
AND TERMINATED ON
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, A. D. 1875, A. I. 2405.



SAN FRANCISCO:
FRANK EASTMAN, PRINTER, 509 CLAY STREET.
1875.

GRAND OFFICERS
OF THE
Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons
OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

*For the year commencing April, A. I. 2405, and ending
April, A. I. 2406.*



M.: E.: WM. THOMAS REYNOLDS, .GRAND HIGH PRIEST, San Francisco ;
R.: E.: ALEX. GURDON ABELL, . . . DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIEST, . San Francisco ;
R.: E.: HENRY HAY KNAPP, GRAND KING, Napa ;
R.: E.: NATHAN W. SPAULDING, . GRAND SCRIBE, Oakland ;
R.: E.: HIRAM THROOP GRAVES, . GRAND TREASURER, San Francisco ;
R.: E.: CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, . . GRAND SECRETARY, San Francisco ;
E.: SAMUEL GRAVES, GRAND CHAPLAIN, San Francisco ;
E.: WILEY JAMES TINNIN, GRAND CAPTAIN OF THE HOST, Weaverville ;
E.: HENRY SAYRE ORME, GRAND ROYAL ARCH CAPTAIN, Los Angeles ;
Comp. SAMUEL DAVID MAYER, . . GRAND ORGANIST, San Francisco ;
" IRA COLBURN ROOT, GRAND GUARD, San Francisco.

GRAND LECTURER :

M.: E.: THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL, Nevada.

GRAND CHAPTER

OF

ROYAL ARCH MASONS

OF THE

State of California.

TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL CONVOCATION.

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The *M. E.* WILLIAM ALEXANDER JANUARY,.....*Grand High Priest;*
 " *M. E.* WILLIAM THOMAS REYNOLDS,.....*Dep. Grand High Priest;*
 " *R. E.* HENRY HAY KNAPP,.....*Grand Scribe;*
 " *R. E.* HIRAM THROPP GRAVES,.....*Grand Treasurer;*
 " *E.* CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,.....*Grand Secretary;*
 " *E.* THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL,.....*Grand Lecturer;*
 " *E.* NATHAN WESTON SPAULDING,.....*Grand Capt. of the Host;*
 " *E.* WILEY JAMES TINNIN,.....*Grand Royal Arch Capt.;*
Comp. SAMUEL DAVID MAYER,.....*Grand Organist;*
 " IRA COLBURN ROOT,.....*Grand Guard.*

PAST GRAND OFFICERS:

The *M. E.* JOHN DUNBAR CREIGH,.....*Past Grand High Priest;*
 " *M. E.* THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL,....." " " "
 " *M. E.* ADOLPHUS HOLLUB,....." " " "
 " *M. E.* JOHN KIRKPATRICK,....." " " "
 " *M. E.* CHARLES MARSH,....." " " "
 " *M. E.* ISAAC SUTVENE TITUS,....." " " "
 " *M. E.* GEORGE TUTTLE GRIMES,....." " " "
 " *M. E.* JAMES LAWRENCE ENGLISH,....." " " "
 " *M. E.* JACOB HART NEFF,....." " " "
 " *R. E.* STEPHEN WING,.....*Past Grand King:*

And the representatives of forty chartered Chapters and two under dispensation, together with a number of Past High Priests by service under this jurisdiction, entitled to seats.

The Grand High Priest filled the vacant stations by the appointment of—

Comp. WILLIAM MONROE PETRIE,.....as.....Grand King ;
" SAMUEL GRAVES,.....as.....Grand Chaplain :

And, there being a sufficient representation present, the Grand Chapter of California was opened in Ample Form, with music by the choir and prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The reading of the minutes at the last Annual Convocation was dispensed with, the members being furnished with printed copies thereof.

The Grand High Priest announced the following committee—

On Credentials : { Comp. Thomas Hubbard Caswell,
" Carnot Courtland Mason,
" John Kirkpatrick.

After a brief recess the committee presented the following report of officers of the chartered Chapters, or their duly appointed proxies, and Past High Priests, by service under this jurisdiction, as present and entitled to seats, viz., from

San Francisco, ...No. 1,....	{ SAMUEL STERNHEIM, High Priest and Past H. P.; JOHN DUNBAR CREIGH, ADOLPHUS HOLLUB, LOUIS COHN, THEODORE EDWARD SMITH, }	Past High Priests.
Sonora, .....No. 2,....	{ ALVIN BACON PRESTON, High Priest and Past H. P.; EDWIN ALDRICH RODGERS, Past High Priest.	
Sacramento, .....No. 3,....	{ WILLIAM MONROE PETRIE, High Priest and P. H. P. JAMES LAWRENCE ENGLISH, Past High Priest.	
California, .....No. 5,....	{ JOSEPH MILLER LITCHFIELD, High Priest; LEONIDAS E. PRATT, King ; ALEXANDER GURDON ABELL, CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, GEORGE TUTTLE GRIMES, WILLIAM THOMAS REYNOLDS, JOHN FRANCIS SNOW, HIRAM THROOP GRAVES, JOHN KIRKPATRICK, THOMAS KYLE, SAMUEL GRAVES, }	Past High Priests.
Nevada, .....No. 6,....	{ CHARLES MARSH, Representative and Past H. P. ; THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL, Past High Priest.	

- [illegible]

<i>Visalia</i> ,.....No. 44,....	{	ANDREW HENDERSON BRODER, High Priest and P. H. P.
		BENJAMIN LAFAYETTE CONYERS, King.
<i>Santa Rosa</i> ,.....No. 45,.....		ADOLPHUS LEIGH FITZGERALD, High P. and P. H. P.
<i>Woodland</i> ,.....No. 46,....	{	CHARLES HENRY DAVIS, High Priest;
		THOMAS CROSS POCKMAN, Past High Priest.
<i>Lassen</i> ,.....U. D.,.....		JOHN RENSHAW LOOKWOOD, Scribe.
<i>Dixon</i> ,.....U. D.,.....		JAMES ADDISON ELLIS, High Priest.

Which report was concurred in, and the companions therein named were admitted to seats.

The Grand High Priest then delivered his Annual Address to the Grand Chapter, as follows :—

COMPANIONS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER :—

By the merciful indulgence of the Great I AM we have been permitted to again assemble in Annual Convocation, to take counsel together and legislate in behalf of the Royal Craft of California. For the twenty-first time we have left our homes in the mountains and in the valleys, in the busy marts of commerce and the peaceful villages, and, laying aside, for the time being, the cares and anxieties attendant upon the pursuit of our daily avocations, have come together to consider and determine upon such measures as may best conduce to the continuation of that peace, harmony, and prosperity which, for so many years, have prevailed throughout our jurisdiction.

We have abundant reason to give thanks to Him who rules the destinies of men, for the manifold blessings he has so graciously bestowed upon us, as a fraternity, since the organization of this Grand Chapter. During these twenty-one years, our Grand Chapter has escaped the dangers incident to infancy, passed safely and discreetly through the difficulties consequent upon the impulsiveness and inexperience of youth, and, with sturdy vigor, unflagging zeal, and a lofty ambition, has arrived at the age and stature of manhood, prepared and fully qualified to perform its part in the great and glorious work of disseminating the heaven-born principles of Royal Arch Masonry.

I congratulate you, companions, upon the healthful and prosperous condition of the Order throughout our jurisdiction. Our membership is steadily increasing, but not so rapidly as to indicate an unhealthy growth, for the returns of the subordinate Chapters show that the outer doors of the Tabernacle are well guarded and that not all who apply succeed in gaining admission to the Sanctuary, upon whose altar is inscribed "Holiness to the Lord."

My official acts as Grand High Priest have been but few. I have not been called upon to decide any questions of law and usage of sufficient importance to report for your consideration, except that referred to me at the last Annual Convocation, relative to the complaint of *Sierra* Chapter, No. 21, against *Alameda* Chapter, No. 36, for an alleged violation of its jurisdictional rights. The facts in this case are as follows:

BRO. NICHOLAS CHENHALL, a Master Mason, and formerly a resident of Oakland, was employed as a mining clerk near Sierra City, and within the jurisdiction of *Sierra* Chapter, No. 21. He was registered there as a voter in June, 1873; and, in the Fall of that year, he made application to *Alameda* Chapter, No. 36, for the several degrees, was accepted and the degree of Mark Master was conferred upon him. Upon these facts becoming known to the High Priest of *Sierra* Chapter, a complaint was entered in the premises and the matter referred to me for adjudication. I was furnished by each of the Chapters interested with a statement of the facts in

the case, and Bro. CHENHALL also submitted to me a statement. He stated that he had, for six years past, considered Oakland his place of residence; that his sojourn in Sierra County was only temporary and dependent upon his employment as a clerk; that he went from place to place as his services were required, and had no fixed place of residence except Oakland, which he regarded as his home. He further stated that, when he petitioned Oakland Chapter for the degrees, he expected to leave Sierra County in a short time, and he believed he was entitled to the privilege of sending his petition to the Chapter located where he considered his residence to be, he being a member of a symbolic Lodge, and other societies, located in Oakland.

The case is parallel to that decided by Grand High Priest DAVIES last year, and confirmed by the Grand Chapter in the adoption of the Report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, page 390, Proceedings of 1874.

Section 1 of Article XVII, of the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, reads as follows:

"No Chapter in this State shall receive an application for the degrees unless the applicant shall have resided within its jurisdiction six months *next preceding* the date of his application, except by permission of the Chapter nearest his place of residence."

While I must acquit *Alameda* Chapter of intentional violation of the law, it is nevertheless clear that the provision of the Constitution above cited was not complied with in this case. The complaint of *Sierra* Chapter is, therefore, well grounded, and it would be simple justice to require *Alameda* Chapter to pay over to *Sierra* Chapter the fees received from Bro. CHENHALL. But I have learned that Bro. CHENHALL has died since the complaint was made, and *Alameda* Chapter has returned to his widow the amount of his fees; and as the object of the complaint was the vindication of the law of jurisdiction more than to recover the small sum of money dependent thereon, I would recommend that, as *Alameda* Chapter has refunded the fee, no further action be taken in the matter.

On the fifth day of August, 1874, I granted a dispensation to Companions ALLEN WOOD, JOHN CHENEY PARTRIDGE, JOHN RENSHAW LOCKWOOD, and others, to form and open a Chapter at Susanville, Lassen County, to be called *Lassen* Chapter. On the thirtieth day of January, 1875, I granted a dispensation to Companions JAMES ADDISON ELLIS, AMIEL HOCKHEIMER, ANDREW GOOD SUMMERS, and others, to form and open a Chapter in the town of Dixon, Solano County, to be called *Dixon* Chapter; and on the eighteenth day of March, 1875, I granted a dispensation to Companions WILLIAM JOHN HOUSTON, SEPTIMUS ALLEN CLEVELAND, HENRY GEORGE JAMES, and others, to form and open a Chapter at Modesto, Stanislaus County, to be called *Modesto* Chapter. In all these cases the requirements of the Constitution were complied with, and the papers appertaining thereto are on file in the office of the Grand Secretary, subject to your inspection.

But two special dispensations have been issued during my term of office: one to *Sacramento* Chapter No. 2, to re-ballot upon the application of a rejected candidate; the other to *Naval* Chapter No. 35, to ballot upon the petition of an applicant for the degrees without reference to a committee. In the latter case the applicant for the degrees was an officer in the United States Navy, and was to sail soon for a foreign port. He had applied to the Chapter nearest his place of residence in North Carolina and received its permission for any Chapter to confer the degrees upon him. There was not time for his petition to take the usual course, and being well known to the officers and members of *Naval* Chapter, I considered it a proper case for the exercise of my dispensatory power. I deem this explanation proper, as I am opposed to the granting of special dispensation except in rare instances for good and sufficient reasons.

Many complaints having been made in relation to the difficulty of complying with General Regulation, No. 12, requiring every High Priest of a Chapter to procure from the Grand Lecturer, or some companion known by the Grand Lecturer to be

skilled in the work, a certificate that he is qualified to properly confer all the degrees and deliver the lectures appertaining thereto, I would recommend that the plan so successfully inaugurated by the Grand Lodge be adopted by the Grand Chapter, viz.: That the State be divided into districts and an Inspector be appointed for each, whose duty it shall be to visit each Chapter in his district, at least once in each year, giving such instruction in the work as may be necessary; reporting to the Grand Lecturer or Grand High Priest, his expenses to be borne by the Chapters visited.

Many of the most intelligent and zealous companions of the jurisdiction—those who are accustomed to “bear the heat and burden of the day” in the work of the Chapters—have arrived at the conclusion that great benefit would accrue from a change in the Constitution providing for the appointment by the Council or High Priest of the subordinate officers—the Royal Arch Captain, Captain of the Host, Principal Sojourner, and Masters of the Vails. It is believed that in that manner those stations would be filled with reference to qualification, while now, it is claimed, they are too often filled by companions whose only recommendation is that they are “clever fellows,” and, who, after election, fail to perform their duties. I would recommend this matter to your consideration.

On the twenty-fourth day of November, 1874, the General Grand Chapter held its twenty-second Triennial Convocation, in Nashville, Tennessee. Twenty-four Grand Chapters were represented, and the session was a harmonious and pleasant one. Our Representative, Past Grand High Priest, Comp. CHARLES MARSH, was present and will, I doubt not, at the proper time report to you its more important acts. The action had at the last preceding Triennial Convocation, making an important change in the ritual, was rescinded, and thus a fruitful source of discord and contention has been removed. Most of the Grand Chapters accepted the change with a very bad grace, while some absolutely refused to comply with the regulation.

The reports from our sister jurisdictions show that death has been busy among them during the past year, nor alas! have our loved ones escaped his ravages. Our Grand Treasurer, Comp. JOSEPH BONAPARTE SCOTCHLER, died at his residence, in Oakland, on the tenth day of October, 1874. In the death of Comp. SCOTCHLER our Grand Chapter has lost a faithful and zealous officer, the State a good citizen, and Masonry an earnest, ardent, and useful adherent. He was a Past Master of *Oakland* Lodge No. 188, and a Past High Priest of *Alameda* Chapter, No. 36. His genial manners, unimpeachable integrity, and warm-hearted sympathetic nature, gained for him the esteem and love of all with whom he came in contact. Few men were more popular than our deceased companion, and his life and conduct justified the esteem with which he was universally regarded.

Companion JOHN WILLIAM HARVILLE, Past Grand High Priest, died, at his residence in this city, on the second day of March, 1875, aged about fifty years. The news of Companion HARVILLE's death came upon the Fraternity like a thunderbolt from a clear sky. So sudden was the attack of the destroyer, that few knew of his illness until his death was announced. Companion HARVILLE had labored long and faithfully in the various orders of Masonry. Coming to this State in the year 1850, he engaged in the practice of his profession in Placer County, and in 1855 he was appointed Master of *Rising Star* Lodge, and served in that capacity two years. In 1858 he was appointed High Priest of *Oliver* Chapter, No. 23, then working under dispensation; and in 1861 he was elected Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge, which position he occupied for two years. In 1868 he was elected Grand High Priest, having previously served as Grand Scribe and Grand King. He was an upright, honorable man, a zealous and consistent Mason, a good and useful citizen. By his death Masonry in California has lost one of its brightest ornaments.

I recommend that mourning pages be set apart in our proceedings to the memory of our loved and lost companions.

Shortly after the death of Companion SCOTCHLER, I commissioned our Excellent Companion HIRAM THROOP GRAVES as Grand Treasurer. I entertain no doubt that the appointment will meet with your hearty approval.

On the tenth of December, 1874, I appointed Comp. EDWARD GOELLER as representative of this Grand Chapter near the Grand Chapter of New Jersey.

I regret that circumstances beyond my control have prevented me from visiting the Chapters as I earnestly desired to do, and for which reason I am unable to report upon their condition from personal inspection; but I am assured that harmony prevails throughout the jurisdiction and that the Chapters are working well and zealously, and at the same time subjecting all material offered, to a most rigid inspection.

Full information of the condition and progress of the work will, no doubt, be furnished you in the reports of our Grand Secretary and Grand Lecturer.

I must be permitted here, companions, to express my grateful thanks to our able and efficient Grand Secretary, Comp. WIGGIN, for the promptness with which he has responded to the numerous calls I have made upon him for information and advice in the discharge of my official duties. He has greatly lightened my labors and helped me decide many questions which without his assistance might have gone unanswered.

And now, companions, having rendered an account of my stewardship, I desire to express to you my grateful thanks for the honor conferred upon me in electing me as your presiding officer, and for your uniform kindness and courtesy towards me in our official and fraternal intercourse. If I have committed errors, I ask you to cover them with the broad mantle of Masonic Charity; and be assured that if I have not filled the high position in which your partiality placed me, as well as you expected me to, it has been through the lack of ability to do better.

Invoking the blessing of the Supreme High Priest of the Universe upon our deliberations, I will no longer detain you from the work we have assembled here to perform.

WILLIAM ALEX. JANUARY,
Grand High Priest.

On motion, it was ordered that the Address of the Grand High Priest be referred to a special committee of three.

The Deputy Grand High Priest named as such committee —

On Address of Grand High Priest:... { Comp. Henry Sayre Orme,
" William Thompson Luther,
" Alexander McKenzie.

Comp. CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, from the Committee on Correspondence, presented the following report, the reading of which was dispensed with, the members being furnished with printed copies, and on motion of Comp. THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL, the report was ordered to be printed with the proceedings:—

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California:—

Your Committee on Correspondence respectfully report that the transactions of thirty-six Grand Chapters have been received and carefully perused, and we present for your consideration such information as we have been enabled to glean from them, not doubting that it will prove to you as interesting and instructive as it has been to your committee. The list embraces the following:—

ALABAMA,.....for.....1874	MISSOURI,.....for.....1874
ARKANSAS,.....".....1874	NEBRASKA,.....".....1873-5
CANADA,.....".....1874	NEW HAMPSHIRE,.....".....1873
CONNECTICUT,.....".....1874	NEW JERSEY,.....".....1874
DELAWARE,.....".....1874	NEW YORK,.....".....1874
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,....".....1874	NORTH CAROLINA,.....".....1874
FLORIDA,.....".....1872-3	NOVA SCOTIA,.....".....1874
GEORGIA,.....".....1874	OHIO,.....".....1874
ILLINOIS,.....".....1873-4	OREGON,.....".....1874
INDIANA,.....".....1874	PENNSYLVANIA,.....".....1874
IOWA,.....".....1874	RHODE ISLAND,.....".....1871-4
KANSAS,.....".....1874	SCOTLAND,.....".....1872-3
KENTUCKY,.....".....1874	SOUTH CAROLINA,.....".....1874
LOUISIANA,.....".....1874	TEXAS,.....".....1874
MAINE,.....".....1874	VERMONT,.....".....1874
MARYLAND,.....".....1874	VIRGINIA,.....".....1874
MASSACHUSETTS,.....".....1874	WEST VIRGINIA,.....".....1872-3
MINNESOTA,.....".....1874	WISCONSIN,.....".....1874

This leaves only Michigan and Tennessee to be heard from, and we regret their absence from our annual roll call. Without further preface we commence with

ALABAMA.

The Grand Chapter of Alabama commenced its forty-seventh Annual Convocation in the city of Montgomery, on the second day of December, 1873,—the *M. E.* MYLES J. GREENE, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* DANIEL SAYRE being Grand Secretary. Thirty-seven subordinate Chapters were represented.

From the Address of the Grand High Priest, we select the following sad commentary upon the existing state of society in that jurisdiction. Let us hope that brighter days will soon dawn upon our companions, and the cloud which now obscures their social horizon be forever dispelled:—

Society is heaving to and fro, like the incipient warnings of an earthquake. Mighty and radical changes are being wrought in our social fabric. The tendency downwards in the scale of morality is fearfully rapid. Corruption stalks abroad in the land with bold and defiant mien; and public opinion has resigned her whilom throne, as the regulator of public virtue. In view of the darkness that threatens to envelop our social and moral horizons, the good and the true are seeking a refuge from the impending storm. The fixed and steady purpose to pursue the right, seeks to be buoyed up, by association with those who have banded themselves together, for the cultivation and promotion of virtuous conduct.

To somewhat relieve the depressing effect of the foregoing, we quote the following cheering announcement. "So far as I have been able to survey the field, Royal Arch Masonry, in this jurisdiction, has enjoyed a year of uninterrupted peace, as well as a reasonable degree of prosperity."

The Grand High Priest regrets that the demands of private and professional business have prevented him from officially visiting the Chapters. We have no doubt the Chapters regret it also, as an occasional visit from the Grand High Priest, or other Grand Officer, infuses new life into the subordinates and encourages them by demonstrating to them the fact that the leaders of the Craft are not unmindful of them.

By many of his old friends and companions in California, the announcement of the demise of Comp. RICHARD F. KNOTT will be received with sincere sorrow and regret.

Comp. KNOTT was long a resident of this State, and occupied several responsible positions in Masonry. His zeal and energy in all that pertained to the welfare of the Craft are well known and appreciated by the older Masons in San Francisco. His genial humor, his kind and affable demeanor to all who approached him, his generous and frank disposition, and his readiness to aid all who were in distress, had

endeared him to a large circle of warm and sincere friends. He was the representative of this Grand Chapter near the Grand Chapter of Alabama at the time of his death, and took a deep interest in all that concerned the Craft in California. We most deeply and sincerely sympathize with our companions of Alabama in the loss they have sustained; and, although our hearts are saddened at the thought that we shall see him no more on earth, let us hope we may meet him within the vails of the great tabernacle on high, where there shall be no more parting, no more sorrow, no more death.

Two Past Grand High Priests were presented with jewels indicative of their rank, and the presentation addresses by the Grand High Priest to the companions thus honored were exceedingly happy and appropriate.

The Report on Correspondence is again from the pen of Comp. P. J. PILLANS, who prefaces this excellent specimen of his skill with a needless apology for its imperfections. It needed only a review of California to make it perfect; but, for some reason, we are "left out in the cold." Probably our proceedings did not reach him; but they were mailed to the Grand Secretary as soon as published, and we hope for better luck next time.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were both re-elected. Address: Montgomery.

ARKANSAS.

The twenty-fifth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Arkansas was held in the city of Little Rock, commencing on the twenty-second day of October, 1874, and continuing three days. The *M. E.* SAMUEL W. WILLIAMS, Grand High Priest, presided, and the *R. E.* LUKE E. BARBER again occupied the Grand Secretary's desk.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is an able and interesting production, and we quote the opening and closing portions as a specimen of his skill:—

In every life there are periods which form eras. So of institutions. The anniversary of some event with them has an interest above other days. The birthday of each life is with individuals, that period which is looked to most. How slow the first years of life seem to pass, and birth anniversaries seem to loiter. But in later life, how rapidly they move around. Just a little while ago we stood eagerly bending forward to manhood, when life's real duties and responsibilities begin. Almost unprepared we anxiously desire the battle of life, in which we were to be combatants, to begin. All too soon, as we now see, we were hurried on. We have gone from conflict to conflict; we have chased the butterflies of hope, played with earth's toys, while we were rendered almost unconscious of passing years as they flitted by so swiftly, until we find that their frosts have whitened the hair, and their summons withered the face, and they say "the old man," as we pass. For all this, has the world been better that we lived in it? Has it been no worse? Poor soldiers we have been in the world's moral strifes, if we have succeeded in being only mere camp-followers in the tents of right; better that, however, than to have fought on the other side. Happy are we if we can show our trophies, or point to monuments of our good deeds. Have we dried a tear? Have we given a morsel to the hungry? Have we spoken words of encouragement to the despairing? Have we written, spoken or done anything for the good of our race and the cause of truth, that may tell of us when we are dead?

Companions, we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that we have had some lessons to learn, which six years of hard and bitter adversity have taught us; and, looking back over them, we can see that nothing but the cold iron of unrelenting power would have impressed the hard lessons so soon; yet God, in his providence, intended we should learn them, and He did not remove His rod until we had conned them well. Those lessons were self-reliance, humility, and the knowledge that there were rights which were common to man, which all must respect alike, whether our ancestors were bleached in the snows of the north, or blackened in the torrid sun in the forests of Africa. When we had learned these lessons, the chastening rod was withheld, so readily, and God has brought us, by ways we knew not, and led the blind in paths they had not known, to see the light of a glorious liberty. Let us use it like men, like Masons, to better ourselves and our race—embracing in our philanthropy men of every race and condition under God's blue canopy; succor the needy, help

the distressed, counsel the erring, raise the fallen ; and may this glorious work know no race, color or previous condition, but go on until earth's millions shall stand in the presence of God, in their mind free, equal, and what they were originally made—**MEN**, in the image of the Maker, disenthralled morally, physically, and politically.

The Committee on Grievances refuse to be comforted, because they have nothing to do.

The Committee on Education report their approval of the management of St. John's College, and recommend that the surplus funds be appropriated for its maintenance. A noble investment.

New Jersey's representative was received and acknowledged.

No Report on Correspondence accompanies the proceedings—an omission which we greatly regret—and hope our companions will no longer withhold from us the light which we feel they are thoroughly capable of imparting.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were both re-elected. Address : Little Rock.

CONNECTICUT.

The seventy-sixth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut was held in the city of Hartford on the twelfth day of May, 1874, the *M. E.* WILLIAM WALLACE LEE, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* JOSEPH K. WHEELER being Grand Secretary. All the Grand Officers save the two Grand Stewards, were present at the opening.

The office of Grand Steward is one unknown in this jurisdiction, and we are therefore unable to estimate the loss which the absence of such an officer would entail upon the Grand Chapter, but as no *pro tems* were appointed, we presume the office is intended more for ornament than use.

Thirty-three subordinate Chapters, being all except one under dispensation, were represented, and all Royal Arch Masons in good standing were invited to visit the Grand Chapter during its session.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is a business-like paper, and treats solely of local affairs.

The following receives our cordial endorsement:—

I have reluctantly granted one dispensation to renew an application within the time fixed by law, where it was supposed a mistake had been made in a ballot. I have received a number of applications to shorten the time in which a ballot might be had, to set aside the by-laws of the subordinates, etc., but with this exception have refused them all. I dislike to appear ungracious or disobliging, but I am firmly convinced that law should be obeyed—not violated, ignored or set aside by any one. I regard the Grand High Priest as the executive officer of this Body—the Body itself is the law-making power. Now, if the law which takes away from the High Priest all right to judge of the merits or demerits of a case of emergency, be wrong and detrimental to the interests of the several subordinates, then it should be amended or repealed, not violated or set aside. During my official connection with this Grand Body, I have visited many of the subordinates, and have heard much complaint that our system of jurisprudence allowed no opportunity to correct mistakes or errors which might be committed in balloting upon applications—no discussion or explanation being allowed. In the nature of things, the Grand High Priest, except in rare instances, can know nothing of the merits or demerits of these cases which come before him, and the idea seems absurd that one should be a judge in a matter of which he knows and can know nothing at all. If the members of the Grand Chapter wish to amend it they have the power ; if they prefer it as it is, retain it ; but they should not ask the executive officer to set aside a law which they voluntarily enacted.

He believes that the appointment of representatives near other Grand Bodies will be productive of no evil results, and as an evidence of the "faith that is in him," appoints ten companions known to be of "mental, moral and Masonic worth" to represent the Grand Chapter of Connecticut near other jurisdictions. He reports that the perfect peace and concord so long existing, remains undisturbed ; long may it so continue.

From the report of the companion deputed by the Grand High Priest to visit and instruct the subordinate Chapters we infer that, while most of them are doing good work and square work, a lack of enthusiasm is evident among a portion of them, which, we doubt not, a few official visits from Grand Officers would remedy.

One Chapter required the most "favorable circumstances of weather and travel" to insure an attendance sufficient to justify an opening; another had remained closed for several months, to *save expense*, and were quietly reminded that the merchant who closed his store when trade was dull, would be likely to take advantage of the bankrupt act.

Another had done no work for two years owing to a "*misuse of the ballot*," a circumstance which would lead us to recommend that *somebody* be subjected to the eliminating process, or that one subordinate less appear upon the registry. When this most reprehensible of unmasonic practices obtains in a Masonic body, the day of its usefulness is past, and unless the offender can be detected and punished, the sooner its existence is terminated, the better for the credit of the Order.

We hope Comp. Lewis will not accuse us of holding "*heretical views*" if we assent that in such cases, a little skirmishing with the "secrecy of the ballot" might be winked at. The companion throws out a hint in his report, a slight attention to which will not be amiss outside the boundaries of Connecticut. He says:—

If I may be allowed, at this time, and in this place, I would suggest to some companions holding official positions, that there is a way of receiving and greeting visitors, which is easy, natural and proper—not overlooking rank and station.

We do not allude to *mere honors*, but a reception which will make a visiting companion feel he is welcome, and—departing—to desire to come again.

We have, in the course of our experience, seen visitors received in the Chapter in such a manner as to suggest the proprietorship on their part, of some contagious disease, which rendered it dangerous to approach them. They were ushered in without welcome, and allowed to depart without recognition. Such a visit could certainly afford no pleasure to the visitor, who should, after he has proved himself worthy, be received and welcomed, not as a stranger, but as a member of our common brotherhood, and made to feel that he is among those who feel an interest in him as such, and who desire to make his sojourn among them as pleasant and agreeable as possible.

The following resolution was adopted by a vote of forty-three to fourteen:—

Resolved, That at the next Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, there be required and paid to this Grand Chapter from each subordinate within its jurisdiction, the sum of *twenty cents* for each member upon its roll; provided however, that in estimating the numbers for the proposed taxation, all members may be deducted who have left its jurisdiction, and not been heard from for the preceding years.

The foregoing resolution was introduced by Comp. JOHN N. LEWIS as a substitute for the report of the Committee on Ways and Means, who recommended that the revenue of the Grand Chapter be in future derived from exaltations instead of a *per capita* tax. The resolution implies that there are members borne upon the rolls, who have left the jurisdiction and have not been heard from for five years or more, and this we hold to be a strong argument in favor of "*certain heretical views*," which Comp. Lewis says we cherish, relative to those who desert the vineyard and leave their companions to bear the "heat and burden of the day."

Here we have companions traveling over the world as Royal Arch Masons, enjoying all the rights and privileges accorded to the true and faithful workmen, yet contributing nothing, pecuniarily or otherwise, to the general good, bearing no portion of the burdens or responsibilities incumbent upon them as members of the Order, satisfied with having their companions to perform all the labor while they enjoy its fruits. We believe in cutting off all such rotten limbs from the tree, that its growth and vigor may not be impaired by imparting nourishment to decaying branches.

The Report on Correspondence is from the able pen of Comp. JOHN N. LEWIS,

and although he pitches into us in a very lively manner on the subject of non-payment of dues, yet we like him because he gives us something to write about. We find in him a "foeman worthy of our steel" (pen) and shall be always pleased to cross weapons with him when opportunity offers.

The proceedings proper of the Grand Chapter occupy sixteen pages of the pamphlet before us, which swells to the fair proportions of one hundred and sixty-three; one hundred and thirty-five of which is contributed by Comp. Lewis as his report; but long as it is we would not willingly curtail it a single line, for it is all good from beginning to end, albeit we cannot indorse all the views therein expressed.

He reviews the transactions of twenty-seven Grand Chapters in a courteous, interesting, and instructive manner: California for 1873, comes in for a large share of his notice. He accuses our Grand Chapter of playing the old fogey in the matter of the recognition of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, because we postponed it for one year in order to get a good ready. Some of our wise ones believe it judicious to "make haste slowly" in such matters, and perhaps they are right, although our patience is sometimes sorely tried by their delay in arriving at a conclusion. Nova Scotia gains in the cordiality of her welcome whatever she may have lost by the delay in her recognition.

Comp. Lewis quotes the following from our General Regulations: "No Masonic communication shall be held with a Royal Arch Mason who stands suspended for any cause;" and upon this he waxes sarcastic, as follows:—

"Which the same"—the last three words—means *particularly* for non-payment of dues. This subject, and that embraced in the following regulation, form the burden of Companion WIGGIN'S Report on Correspondence, as we shall see. Our own views, and we believe those of this Grand Chapter and the vast majority of the Craft, will be given in proper connection.

He then quotes some of our remarks upon the subject of non-payment of dues, which he acknowledges have "no inconsiderable force," and then proceeds to give his own views and possibly those of his Grand Chapter, but when he asserts that they are those of the "vast majority of the Craft" we beg leave to interpose a demurrer.

As Comp. LEWIS' views are somewhat peculiar, and as we propose to meet them as best we can, with such arguments as our space will permit, we give them in *extenso*:—

There is much to be said upon both sides of this subject of dues. In the first place, it is an innovation upon the ancient body of Freemasonry—unavoidable, we will admit, because of the changes in the habits and customs of men of the nineteenth century from those of their ancestors, but still an innovation. In this age and country it is doubtless true that a proper system of membership dues, carefully surrounded by conservative restrictions, is necessary to the life and prosperity of any society of men. But it is of the utmost importance that all rules and regulations, legislation and practice, concerning the subject, be founded and carried out in constant view of the fact that *it is*, though necessary, an innovation.

Now, from its earliest existence, tradition informs us, the rituals bear testimony, and we firmly believe, that the corner-stone of Masonry, as an organized society, has been its *voluntary* character. This is indicated by the very name, *Free* and Accepted Mason. And if there is one sentiment which causes the heart to swell with honest pride, quickens the pulse to earnest endeavor, causes the eye to kindle and glow with fervent zeal, and the sensibilities to reach forth with love and kindness towards our fellows, it is the *consciousness of freedom*. To Americans, it is as the light of the sun; the pure air of heaven; the shower after the drouth; the evening breeze in August. We inhale it every breath we draw; it sustains us in all the trials of life, and refreshes us after its conflicts and disappointments.

Let *Free* Masons, then, exercise a modicum of the wisdom of our first Most Worshipful Grand Master, in adapting a necessary innovation to the time-honored and inherent *freedom* of the order. Lodge or Chapter membership, with its peculiar attendant privileges, may justly be coupled with and hinged upon a definite pecuniary contribution towards its organic maintenance. But do not force any worthy brother or companion to the alternative of either making the humiliating confession of his poverty, or being branded as a Masonic criminal. We believe it *our* duty to be an affiliated member of a Lodge, a Chapter, a Council, and a Commandery; but we deem it a question of personal duty which we are *free* to decide for ourself, responsible to no

one but our God and our conscience, and we accord the same *free* decision to every Brother, Companion, and Sir Knight in the Universe. If any one chooses to debar himself from the rights and privileges of membership—and if you will reflect a moment you will note many which do not pertain to a non-affiliate—why, let him go. We haven't half the dread of the disastrous influence of non-affiliated Masons that we have of those who, with no love or appreciation of our principles, no desire for the moral elevation of themselves or others, might be retained in membership solely through dread of discipline—dead wood, knarled, withered and dried-up limbs, sticking to the trunk, solely because the cohesive power of law keeps them there, to mar all the lovely proportions of the tree by their inherent hideousness.

But one word more. On the “dollars and cents” principle of Companion WIGGIN, we ask this question. After having *paid* for his degrees, and the consequent advantages, has not every Mason the right to decide for himself whether he will further pay for the *further privileges of membership*? Companion WIGGIN rightly says, “the good and true Mason needs no incentive to pay his dues;” and we will add that it is a reproach and a scandal, that such an one should be forced by *the law* to accord the equal rights of membership, to the unworthy cravens who “pay them grudgingly and tardily,” only through dread of discipline.

The importance the subject is assuming is our apology for these, perhaps, too extended remarks.

Comp. LEWIS speaks of the payment of dues as an innovation, although he confesses that it is an unavoidable one. So are Grand Lodges and written Constitutions innovations upon the ancient body of Freemasonry. Masonry is progressive, and the laws, customs, and usages which governed the Craft when “time was young,” have been changed to suit the demands of a more enlightened age. Much stress is laid upon the voluntary character of Masonry. It is true that every Mason joins the Order of his own free will and accord, and he is as free to leave it as he was to unite himself with it; but when he becomes a member, he incurs certain obligations which it is his bounden duty to discharge. The degrees of Masonry are conferred upon him in consideration of certain stipulated acts and duties to be performed by him. According to Comp. LEWIS's views, the contract should be all on one side. A Mason should be allowed all the rights and privileges incident to his relation to the Craft, but no corresponding benefits should be required of him except such as he may freely and voluntarily offer. We cannot subscribe to this doctrine. We do not understand the word *free*, as applied to Masonry, to imply an immunity from restraint, or from the discharge of those duties which the general law renders incumbent upon all; but rather that freedom which, combined with fervency and zeal, should render Masons foremost in every good and charitable work. A Mason agrees to conform to and abide by the by-laws of his Lodge, and in almost every instance, one of these by-laws is, that he shall pay a certain stated sum monthly, as dues. If he fails from inability to comply with the law, no Lodge will punish him for his misfortune, but if he fail through neglect or indifference to discharge his obligations to the Craft, it is right that he should be admonished, and, if admonition has no effect, he should be cut off as a cumberer of the soil. Bro. LEWIS asks us if a Mason, “after having *paid* for his degrees, and the *consequent advantages*,” has not the right to decide for himself whether he will “*further pay for the further privileges of membership*?”

We answer, no! The man who *pays*, simply for the privilege of being *called* a Mason and enjoying the advantages consequent upon such a relation, has no more of the spirit of Masonry in his heart than a Chimpanzee, and is about as well qualified to understand and appreciate its beneficent teachings.

Comp. LEWIS acknowledges that the subject is an important one, and if he scans carefully the reports from the various jurisdictions, he will find that many of our brother reporters and Grand High Priests are of our way of thinking. We have fully converted that hardened sinner, BURNHAM, of Rhode Island, and do not despair of bringing even LEWIS to repentance. He quotes copiously from our report of 1873, and although he cannot agree with us on some points, he does not fail to commend all which to him seems good, and speaks of us in terms which causes us involuntarily to feel for our hat.

He sees fit to propound a question to us as follows:—

He says Companion Lockwood's Report on Correspondence, "in point of excellence, is fully up to the standard of its predecessors." In view of the remark above criticised we would like to ask what he considers that standard to be.

In reply, we would state that we consider Comp. Lockwood's standard one which few are competent to reach, and we are only consoled for his loss by the acquisition of so able a representative; and we mean what we say. Now, Comp. Lewis, if you don't make us a low bow for that compliment, we will have you suspended for *non-payment of dues*.

It is with no little regret that we feel compelled to lay down our pen and pause in the consideration of this report, for there are many interesting features in it which we would gladly notice and discuss; and, disclaiming all desire or intention to flatter or unduly praise, we do not hesitate to record our conviction that it is one of the very best that has come to our notice. With this parting shot, Comp. Lewis, we bid you good night.

The *M. E.* EDMUND TWEEDY was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* JOSEPH K. WHEELER was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address: Hartford.

DELAWARE.

The sixth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Delaware was held in the city of Wilmington on the twenty-first day of January, 1874,—the *M. E.* GEO. W. STONE, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* J. P. ALLMOND being Grand Secretary. All the Grand Officers were present at the opening, and five chartered Chapters (all) were represented.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is a paper which well repays the perusal, and in it are gems of thought which should be treasured up in the store-house of every Mason's memory. He says:—

The history of Capitular Masonry in our State has been a checkered one. In the language so often used in ancient history, "It *rose, flourished, and fell*."

Most of us who are now members of this Grand Chapter, labored assiduously among its ruins, and have, after considerable effort, succeeded in rearing this present temple, which, if it is not grand and imposing, is at least of fair proportions and in perfect harmony.

The machinery seems now to be in perfect order, and I trust no one will be found in the years to come, who will have either the power or disposition to disturb its workings, through mistaken zeal or personal ambition.

"Do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith," is as applicable now to us, as it was to the Galatians in Paul's day. For Masonry knows no bounds. It is as broad as humanity. While it aims to enroll among its members, only those who are capable of engaging in its really glorious work, still it should not, and does not aim to confine its labor to its own limited circle, but to make itself a power for good in every city, town and hamlet where it exists. Its lessons teach Morality, Patriotism and Virtue. It is grounded on a belief in the existence of an over-ruling Father who governs and controls his children in Love. It announces itself to be the champion of Virtue and Manliness, at any and all times, and its power should be felt in every relation of our lives; as fathers, sons and brothers, as citizens, as business men, as Christians or Jews. Its field of operation is too extensive to be covered by any sect or party. It is not weighed down by doctrines, or hindered by doubtful disputations about principles, but is always led by its thrilling watch-words, which should lie at the root of all our actions, *brotherly love, relief and truth*.

The following meets our views exactly; it should be printed in letters of gold and hung in every Lodge Room and Chapter Hall in the land:—

We live in an age that recognizes progress in all things, and if there be those that desire to linger among the relics of the past, and to spend their strength in attempting to discover the machinery by which our venerable institution was moved in by-gone ages, I am not of that number. While I venerate the *good* that the past has transmitted to us, I believe that Masonry is no exception to the general rule of progress, and that we may now, even at this late day, add new lustre to its history by our achievements in its real work for humanity. Let us keep its time-honored customs; let us preserve its ancient and well-known landmarks, for they have been well tried; they bear upon their face the stamp marks of *honesty* and *wisdom*; they connect us with the past by golden memories, they must not be given up, but let us from the springs of love in our own hearts turn our little streams into its great river to increase its volume as it flows along through the ages to come.

If we would do this work and do it well, we must not waste our time by the way-side, discussing the details of Ritual, disputing about the size of an apron or jewel, the width of a collar, or the disposition of our furniture, whether the word *a* or *the* should be used in such a place, or whether such a method of doing a proper thing is the *original* one or not.

On the subject of visits to the subordinate Chapters by Grand Officers, he says:—

While I do not know that such visits are really indispensable, they might, I think, be made very useful in stirring up the interest of the Companions in Capitular Masonry, and I would recommend *not* that it be made a part of the duty of the Grand High Priest to make such visits, but that the Grand Chapter, by resolution, express their approval of such visits, when it is possible that they can be made. The social ties that should bind us together can certainly be strengthened by such visits, and our acquaintance be made more thorough, and harmony thereby promoted.

He strongly recommends the adoption of a uniform work and the appointment of a Grand Lecturer to teach it, and in this connection says:—

Heretofore we have been at a stand for the want of some plan upon which to proceed, and therefore, while doubting my own ability to cope successfully with so difficult a question, I will venture to suggest a plan that has occurred to me, hoping if it shall be found impracticable, it may, at least, suggest to some other companion a way out of our present difficulty.

The first thing it seems to me to be decided, is, *what* work shall we adopt? for at present we have no standard work, and no two of our Chapters use the same work, and therefore we must find some work that is fixed and unchanging, and that can always be found when wanted; some work that is held and guarded officially by some power competent to keep it and protect it from innovation and change.

He thus concludes his excellent Address:—

Finally, Companions, permit me to say, that having now fairly entered upon an era of good feeling and perfect harmony, we owe it to ourselves and to the good name of our venerable institution that we continue to work in Peace, Love and Harmony. Let us remember at all times the familiar sentence.

Harmony being the strength and support of all institutions, more especially this of ours. And let this Grand Body furnish to its Subordinate Bodies a model of dignity, earnestness and harmony that they will do well to imitate.

The committee to whom the address was referred, did not agree with the Grand High Priest with reference to the question of uniformity of work, and offered the following resolution:—

That any effort to make a change in the work of the several Chapters in this jurisdiction at this time would destroy their harmony, and consequently their usefulness.

On the third recommendation, viz.: The appointment of a Grand Lecturer, your committee would recommend that instead of appointing a Grand Lecturer at this time, that the M.: E.: Grand High Priest be required to exemplify, at the next annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, the work that he, in his judgment, may consider the best adapted to this jurisdiction.

The Grand Chapter very properly refused to adopt the resolution, but took no further action in the matter.

It would seem that, in a jurisdiction numbering but six Chapters, the problem of uniformity would not be a difficult one to solve.

The six Chapters have an aggregate membership of two hundred and ninety-six, being an increase of thirty-one over last year.

There is no Report on Correspondence, which we regret, and hope our companions of Delaware will allow us to hear from them, as well as of them, in future.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were re-elected. Address: Wilmington.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

A Semi-Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia was held in the city of Washington, on the twelfth day of May, 1874,—the M.: E.: NOBLE D. LARNER, Grand High Priest, presiding, the R.: E.: LEWIS G. STEPHENS being Grand Secretary. Eight subordinate Chapters were represented.

The committee, to whom was referred the Address of the Grand High Priest at the

last Annual Convocation, presented an interesting and important report, involving matters of general interest to the Craft. As the subjects reported upon have frequently been mooted in this jurisdiction and finally settled by legislation, we give the report of the committee in full :—

Your committee entirely concur with the views expressed by the *M. E.* Grand High Priest in his Address, and the recommendations therein made, so far as the matters referred to are proper subjects of legislation by this Grand Chapter. The recommendation looking to the expulsion of a member of a subordinate Chapter for non-payment of dues, your committee do not consider a proper subject of legislation as that question is settled by the Constitution of the Grand Chapter; nor are your committee ready to recommend a change in the Grand Constitution in that particular.

So far as your committee are informed, the neglect or refusal to pay dues to a Masonic body has never been considered such an offense as would justify Masonic discipline, so as to affect the Masonic standing of a brother, further than to deprive the delinquent of membership and all the rights, immunities, and benefits incident thereto. This, we think, is as it should be. The right of membership in a Masonic body carries with it all other rights and benefits which properly belong to the Craft, and which are well understood by every intelligent Mason. The loss of membership, while it does not effect his Masonic standing, is accompanied with the loss of all those rights, and leaves him in the position of an unaffiliate, having no right to sit in such body and participate in its deliberations, nor even to visit, except by mere matter of favor; no Masonic home while living, and no right to Masonic burial when dead. The loss of these rights, and others not necessary to mention here, has always been considered sufficient punishment for the neglect of what is very properly considered, by the *M. E.* Grand High Priest, the very important duty of paying dues. So that, while your committee are in full accord and sympathy with the *M. E.* Grand High Priest in his censure of Masons who, without any good reason, neglect this very important duty, we do not agree with him in his mode of punishment.

Upon the question of communications or correspondence between Grand Chapters of foreign jurisdictions and subordinate Chapters of this jurisdiction, your committee fully agree with the *M. E.* Grand High Priest that all communications from a foreign Grand Chapter to a subordinate Chapter of this jurisdiction should come through this Grand Chapter. Your committee also agree that subordinate Chapters should never be permitted to appear in public (except on funeral occasions) as a Chapter, without the permission of this Grand Chapter.

The condition of a companion—a member of a subordinate Chapter—having lost his membership by reason of suspension or expulsion from his Lodge, and afterward, reinitiated by his Lodge or the Grand Lodge, referred to in the address, your committee deem a matter of grave importance to the Craft, and one in which we fully concur with the views expressed by the *M. E.* Grand High Priest, and which we think requires some definite action by this Grand Chapter.

For the purpose, therefore, of settling the foregoing questions, to which the attention of this Grand Chapter has very properly been called by the *M. E.* Grand High Priest, your committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :—

Resolved, That no subordinate Chapter of this jurisdiction shall appear in public for any purpose, (except on funeral occasions,) without the consent of this Grand Chapter, or that of the *M. E.* Grand High Priest.

Resolved, That no subordinate Chapter shall go into any foreign jurisdiction for the purpose of conferring or exemplifying, nor shall it confer or exemplify, any of the Capitular degrees in any foreign jurisdiction without the expressed consent of this Grand Chapter, and the Grand Chapter proposed to be visited, having been first had and obtained.

Resolved, That the question of receiving a companion into a Chapter after he has lost his membership by having been suspended or expelled by his Lodge, and afterwards reinstated by his Lodge or the Grand Lodge, be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, with instructions to report at our next Annual Convocation such standing resolution as will meet the exigencies of the case.

The report was concurred in, and the resolutions were adopted. The reasoning of the committee upon the question of non-payment of dues, strikes us as somewhat singular. They say that “*so far as they are informed*, the neglect or refusal to pay dues, has never been considered such an offense as would justify Masonic discipline so as to affect the Masonic standing of a brother, further than to *deprive the delinquent of membership, and all the rights, immunities and benefits incident thereto.*”

We are a little curious to know what more suspension or expulsion could do. When a companion is deprived of membership, and “*all the rights, immunities, and benefits incident thereto,*” in our opinion he comes precious near being expelled.

This is the most striking case of "tweedle-dum and tweedle-dee" that has ever come under our notice.

The committee would not expel a man for refusing to pay his dues: oh, no! that would be too harsh a proceeding: they would simply deprive him of all his Masonic rights and privileges. As the old Quaker said when the dog bit him, "I will not kill thee, nor hurt thee, but I'll give thee a bad name," whereupon he shouted Mad Dog! which soon brought the canine to grief.

The committee say they are in *full accord and sympathy* with the Grand High Priest in his censure of Masons, who, without any good reason, neglect to pay their dues; but they "do not agree with him in his mode of punishment:" he would expel the recreants; they would simply deprive them of all rights and privileges as Masons. We think the Grand High Priest must have smiled audibly when he read that report, and saw how strongly and decidedly the committee dissented from his views.

The eighth Annual Convocation was held in the city of Washington, on the twentieth day of November, 1874; all the Grand Officers being present, and all the subordinate Chapters were represented.

The Grand High Priest, in a brief but comprehensive address, returns thanks to the "Giver of every good and perfect gift." for the blessings bestowed upon them during the year. He speaks encouraging words relative to the growth and prosperity of the Royal Craft in that jurisdiction, and the following extract shows a degree of prosperity and healthy progress which is truly gratifying:—

Seven years have now elapsed since the first organization of this Grand Chapter, and yet to-day, (although our progress was seriously retarded for more than a year,) it numbers as its constituents, eight subordinate Chapters, with a membership of 1099.

When we remember the small territory to which we are restricted, we sometimes wonder at our success, and the rapid strides Royal Arch Masonry has made in our midst since this Grand Body was first organized. Men of character and intelligence from the various walks of life have taken position in our ranks, and become zealous co-workers with us.

He had inaugurated the system of visitations to the subordinate Chapters, and upon each visit an address was delivered by some companion deputed for that purpose. A most excellent custom, the good effect of which will soon become apparent if continued. He reports that he had not been called upon to make any decisions, and that only one or two special dispensations in matters of minor importance had been granted. He congratulates the Grand Chapter upon the fact that it is free from debt, and has a small balance in the treasury, and we rejoice with them in their prosperity.

In the following recommendation we most heartily concur. Substantially the same rule is enforced in this jurisdiction, and has had the effect which the Grand High Priest predicts for it there:—

Companions, I have but one recommendation to make to you at this time, and that is an amendment to our Constitution, by inserting the word "Affiliated" before the words "Master Masons," in the fourth line of Sec. 3 of Art. XXII. By the adoption of this amendment, our Chapters will be restricted to receiving petitions for the degrees from such only as are Affiliated Master Masons, in good and regular standing in a Lodge. This amendment will, I trust, be submitted at our present Convocation, so that it can be acted upon at the Semi-Annual Convocation in May, 1875. Believing, as I do, that requiring this additional qualification of the brethren who may apply to our Chapters for the degrees, will do much towards reducing the number of unaffiliated Master Masons in our jurisdiction, is my reason for calling your attention to the matter at this time, and I trust it will receive your approval.

At the last Annual Convocation a committee was appointed to ascertain whether Chapters were working in that jurisdiction under charters derived from the Grand Chapters of England and Scotland. Comp. MACKEY, a member of the committee, reported that, to his positive knowledge, no such Chapters existed.

The Committee on Jurisprudence asked further time to consider the resolution presented by the Committee on the Grand High Priest's Address, at the Semi-annual Convocation, relative to companions suspended or expelled by their Lodges, and afterwards reinstated by their Lodges or the Grand Lodge. Which request was granted.

Our own Committee on Jurisprudence took a year to consider the same question, and finally reported the following resolution, which was adopted :—

“Resolved, That the restoration to good standing by a Lodge, of any companion who has been suspended by it for any cause, and where no action has been had in his case directly by the Chapter, restores him to good standing in the Chapter.”

The Report on Correspondence is again from the genial pen of Comp. EDWIN B. MACGROTTY, and well repays the perusal. He reviews, in a pleasant and instructive manner, the transactions of thirty Grand Chapters, some of them for two and even three years. California for 1874 receives a kindly and courteous notice. He speaks of the Address of Grand High Priest DAVIES as an “admirable document,” and compliments the writer in language which modesty forbids him to quote. He thinks our remarks upon the ode, as sung before the Grand Chapter of Canada by representatives of a Chapter under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, were severe, but acknowledges that some of the stanzas do “savor a little of toadyism.” We concur.

Comp. MACGROTTY loses nothing in our estimation by the following announcement :—

Being what is commonly called a “pioneer” of that golden State, having passed ten years of our life, from 1849 to 1859, upon its shores, we take a great interest in everything relating to California, and more especially Masonic matters transpiring there, and we can well appreciate the good opinion of the brethren and companions of what was once our adopted home.

How the heart of an old California pioneer warms towards a brother ! We shake your hand (metaphorically) across the continent, Comp. MACGROTTY, and trust we may yet see you in the flesh. We, too, are of the “forty-niners,” and have never yet been sufficiently tired of California to leave it. He is equally bothered with ourself, relative to the Illinois resolution concerning the Mark. Will Comp. MILES please explain it ?

With reference to the controversy upon the subject of the Tetragrammaton, he has the following :—

What is it ? Pass it along.

In his review of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Maine, Comp. WIGGIN quotes the letter of Comp. BLAND, Grand Chaplain, &c., Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, in relation to the G. O. W. ; also the action of the Grand Chapter in reference to the change made by the G. G. Chapter, and remarks : “That it is openly charged by some of our brother reporters that Comp. PIKE had a sinister motive in making the statement to the G. G. Chapter, which induced that body to make the change.” We can assure Comp. WIGGIN that no companion knowing Ill. Comp. PIKE would ever think of making such a charge against him. For singleness of mind, purity of heart, earnestness in battling for what he knows to be right, unbounded zeal in the cause of Masonry, profound study in all that relates to its symbolism and symbols, his equal is not to be found in the ranks of Masonry in the world. We fear that Ill. Comp. PIKE will not be appreciated as he should be in the Masonic world until he has passed from among us within the veils of the Tabernacle on High. We would refer Comp. WIGGIN to an exhaustive research into the meaning and derivation of the G. O. W., written by Ill. Comp. PIKE, entitled the Holy Triad, before he passes judgment upon our learned companion.

“Who shall decide when doctors disagree ?” We do not pretend to pass judgment in this matter. The study of Hebrew was unfortunately omitted from the curriculum of the pine board school-house where we graduated ; even Greek is somewhat difficult for us to translate owing to *lack of practice* ; and as for wading through the “Holy Triad,” we will accept any solution of the difficulty rather than try that. We do not doubt that Comp. PIKE is all right, but there is a man away down in Missouri who does not think so.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were both re-elected, and Comp. MACGROTTY was continued as chairman of the Committee on Correspondence.

FLORIDA.

Last year we missed from our annual love feast our sister Florida, and much we regretted her absence ; for when we sit down to these literary banquets, it rejoices our heart to have all the family present.

The transactions of 1872 and 1873 come to us in one pamphlet, and although the matter contained therein has acquired a flavor somewhat ancient, yet it has not depreciated in interest or value by age, but, like old wine, has acquired body and purity by keeping.

The twenty-sixth Annual Convocation was held in the city of Tallahassee on the eighteenth of June, 1872. The Grand High Priest, Comp. DE WITT C. DAWKINS, delivered an able and eloquent address, from which we extract the following:—

Here, within the sacred sanctuary of Holy Royal Arch Masonry, every thing that tends to vice or immorality is denounced, while universal approbation attends the cultivation and promotion of every commendable virtue. Here indolence and ignorance are alike discouraged, while zeal and fidelity in every good act and purpose are rewarded by the cheerful approbation of every true companion. Here the bickerings, contentions, hypocrisies, deceits, envies, jealousies, abominations, and mockeries of a wicked world are sought to be excluded, while the inmates, joined heart and hand, are bound to each other by multiplied cords of moral covenant, infinitely stronger than can be made of any material substance, for the promotion of each other's welfare, and for the moral, social, and intellectual advancement of their fellow beings. And it is here that the mind, trained and educated by most mysterious symbols, legends and allegories, can the better view man traveling through the rough and rugged paths of life to that exalted station, whence he can more clearly look beyond the verge of time and behold the most sacred Tabernacle, reared by Omniscient design, and Omnipotent power upon the Golden Hills of Eternity, and upon which time and seasons can produce no decay.

A beautiful picture of what Royal Arch Masonry ought to be, but alas ! we fear that most of us fall far short of the ideal thus glowingly portrayed.

The twenty-seventh Annual Convocation was held in the city of Jacksonville, on the eleventh day of February, 1873,—the *M. E.* WILLIAM MORRILL, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* DE WITT C. DAWKINS acting as Grand Secretary. Twelve subordinate Chapters were represented,

In his address the Grand High Priest says:—

On this occasion, my companions, I congratulate you upon the fullness of representation—the manifestation of earnest zeal for the prosperity of the Royal Craft—together with the satisfactory returns made by the constituent Chapters, showing a healthy and improved condition over the returns of last year. Although no new Chapters have been formed, the resuscitation of some of the old Chapters, gives us promise of returning prosperity, by far more desirable than the erection of new ones. During the last twelve years there have been serious causes for reducing our Chapters to a low condition. We have been traveling the rough and rugged paths of internecine war and reconstruction ; each of which have been equally destructive to the prosperity, peace, and happiness of our people. Under these disastrous circumstances, many have fainted by the wayside, and those who have emerged from the ruin have been compelled to begin their sacred edifice anew. Notwithstanding all this, my companions, let us take fresh courage from the trials of the past. A brighter era is before us—the rugged paths behind. Then let us redouble our exertions to rebuild our ruined temple, and restore the Grand Chapter to the high prestige she once so honorably wore.

We sincerely hope that the “rugged paths” are indeed behind, and a bright future in store for our companions of the flowery land. They have passed through the fiery furnace and have come forth like refined gold. May peace and prosperity rest upon their altars.

Comp. THOMAS A. CARRUTH again presents the Report on Correspondence, and although somewhat brief—only seventeen Grand Chapters being noticed—it is an excellent report, what there is of it. We presume that the change in the time of holding the Annual Convocations from June to February prevented him from receiving the proceedings of many of the Grand Chapters in time for review. California

for 1872 receives courteous and fraternal notice. He quotes approvingly from our report of that year, and thanks us for sustaining him in his views on temperance. He will ever find us ready to fight with him shoulder to shoulder in that cause.

We find in the concluding remarks of Comp. CARRUTH, another explanation of the brevity of his report. He says :—

We have now completed our fourth Report on Foreign Correspondence. The first two were prepared under very discouraging circumstances, as were then stated, yet they were kindly received and commented on. The third we prepared with great care, at a time when no adverse circumstances were operating against us, and we presume, in our zeal for the cause, we made it too voluminous, but we could not help it; and when some companions at the Convocation of the Grand Chapter, demanded that it should be cut down, we did not know where to begin to do this, as to have omitted any part would, in our judgment, have destroyed the symmetry of the whole. Since we have found, however, that this long report has been the cause of the inability to publish the proceedings, we have earnestly wished it had been withdrawn altogether.

We have, however, crushed down any feelings we have had, and have done the best we could with this, and now tender it to you in the spirit of a true Royal Arch Mason. If you receive it, well. If you publish it, well. If neither, it is still well, so far as we are concerned.

Now we submit that this is positively aggravating.

We read the first and second report with a great deal of pleasure, made due allowance for the adverse circumstances under which they were written, and wondered, if Comp. CARRUTH could write such reports under conditions so discouraging, what he would do if he had a good chance. And now he tells us he has had an opportunity to extend himself without meeting with the pressure of an adverse circumstance; that he has availed himself of that opportunity, and yet we are deprived of the fruits of his labors—for the weight of his report caused the treasury to collapse; and thus the Masonic world has lost what we doubt not would have been a literary treasure.

The following from the Address of the Grand High Priest we indorse as sound doctrine :—

I desire to call the attention of the Grand Chapter to Rule 2, page 12, proceedings 1860, *adopted unanimously*, viz.:—

Rule 2. Resolved by the Grand Chapter of Florida, that no Chapter within this jurisdiction shall receive the petition of a Master Mason for advancement in the Chapter degrees, who is not a regular member of some Lodge and in good standing, and who has paid all dues against him, and made suitable proficiency in the preceding degrees, of which he shall produce satisfactory evidence from the Secretary of the Lodge of which he is a member, before he is balloted for.

I am not prepared to say that this is not a wise and salutary rule, (I fear too little heeded.) but leaves the subject only half elucidated. It does not declare, that having been exalted to the sublime degree of a Royal Arch Mason, to preserve his membership in the Chapter, he must retain his membership and good standing in a Symbolic Lodge—or that a Master Mason dimitted in good standing shall not be affiliated in a Royal Arch Chapter, although the inference is clearly in the affirmative. That suspension or expulsion for cause in a Symbolic Lodge works suspension or expulsion in the Chapter, admits of no reasonable doubt, as the Royal Arch Chapter does not possess any supervising power over the action of a Symbolic Lodge, and *no Masonic intercourse* can be held with an expelled or suspended Mason. The capitular degrees being based upon that of a Master Mason in good standing, he must produce that evidence before exaltation, and must retain that standing to preserve his membership in the Chapter. Every High Priest has it in charge to see that none be exalted to the sublime degree of Royal Arch Masons except those who are Master Masons in good standing, and are fully qualified, agreeable to his oath of office, and the requirements of the installing ceremony, which he is bound to respect as *unallerable law*. The fact of a Master Mason petitioning for advancement gives him no more claim to exaltation, than the profane may have to initiation. He is simply a qualified candidate, who must stand the test of the ballot, as to his qualifications and fitness to work on the rebuilding of that second Temple upon which we labor.

The *M. E.* MICHAEL BOWES was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* DEWITT C. DAWKINS was elected Grand Secretary.

The twenty-eighth Annual Convocation was held in the city of Jacksonville on the twelfth day of January, 1874,—the *M. E.* MICHAEL BOWES, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* DEWITT C. DAWKINS being Grand Secretary.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is very brief, and confined solely to matters of local interest. He calls attention to the unsatisfactory condition of the finances of the Grand Chapter, and recommends that steps be at once taken to improve it. He announces the decease of Past Deputy Grand High Priest CHARLES SLAGER, and Past Grand Treasurer T. P. TATUM, and pays a fraternal tribute to their memory.

Comp. JOHN S. DIGGS presents a brief but interesting Report on Correspondence, in which he reviews the transactions of twenty-five Grand Chapters, California receiving fraternal notice. He is pleased to compliment our report for 1873, for which we return thanks.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were both re-elected. Address : Jacksonville.

GEORGIA.

The Grand Chapter of Georgia assembled in Annual Convocation in the city of Macon, on the twenty-ninth day of April, 1874,—the *M. E.* GEORGE W. ADAMS, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* J. EMMETT BLACKSHEAR being Grand Secretary. Forty-two subordinate Chapters were represented.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is brief and confined to matters of purely local interest. Business engagements had prevented him from paying official visits to the subordinate Chapters, but he hints that, had this difficulty not existed, the state of finances of the Grand Chapter would not have admitted of any extended system of visitations. We hope our companions of Georgia may soon be relieved from their financial embarrassment, not only that they may be enabled to indulge in the pleasure and profit of visitations from their Grand Officers, but that they may once more favor us with Reports on Correspondence as in days of yore.

One dispensation was granted for the formation of a new Chapter. The Grand High Priest reports that changing the place of holding the Annual Convocation from Augusta to Macon will save in mileage the considerable sum of \$1100, annually, and we should judge the financial prospect of our sister jurisdiction to be a hopeful one, for he says :—

By the practice of rigid economy in our appropriations for two years, and continuing annual sessions, we will be out of debt. But should you adopt the amendment now before you for biennial sessions, and continue the collection of the same annual dues as now, there would be in the treasury at close of the session of 1876, after paying all expenses, of say \$2500, surplus.

He expresses himself as opposed to accumulating a fund in the treasury larger than is required for present necessities, and plainly says that former funds have been "frittred" away. We are in favor of Grand Bodies accumulating a fund sufficiently large to insure the payment of current expenses from the accruing interest, and then abolish the assessments on subordinates. He calls the attention of the Grand Chapter to the propriety of fully considering and determining their relation to the General Grand Chapter ; but no action was taken relative thereto.

The proposition to hold biennial Convocations was defeated. The Committee on Finances report a balance in the Treasury of \$1519 06.

There is no Report on Correspondence, and no committee was appointed to prepare one.

The *M. E.* LUTHER J. GLENN was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* J. EMMETT BLACKSHEAR was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address : Macon.

ILLINOIS.

The Grand Chapter of Illinois held its twenty-fourth Annual Convocation in the city of Chicago, commencing on the thirtieth day of October, 1873—the *M. E.* ASA

W. BLAKESLEY, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* JAMES H. MILES being Grand Secretary. One hundred and fifteen subordinate Chapters were represented at the opening.

The pamphlet containing the proceedings is a model of neatness and typographical excellence, and reflects credit upon Comp. MILES, the Grand Secretary, whose engraved likeness beams upon us in the frontispiece.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is a business-like paper, strictly confined to the recital of his official acts. The following speaks well for the prosperity of the Craft in that jurisdiction :—

The history of this Grand Chapter, from its organization, April 9, 1850, to the present time, shows a continued and steady progress. From the little number of six Chapters, which first organized the Grand Chapter of this State, we have steadily advanced to 154. At the organization in 1850, we numbered about 240 members, at our last Convocation we numbered 9378—showing an annual increase of 380 members. Still the work goes nobly on. New blocks are added annually, and the temple rises in steady and uninterrupted harmony.

Five dispensations had been issued during the year, for the formation of new Chapters, and all were reported to be in a healthy condition.

Quite a number of decisions were reported, all which, according to our ideas, were in accordance with Masonic law and usage, and were confirmed by the Grand Chapter.

He recommends the adoption of a uniform code of by-laws, for the government of the subordinate Chapters, a measure long since adopted in this jurisdiction with gratifying results.

Representatives were appointed near the Grand Chapters of South Carolina, Nova Scotia, Vermont, Indiana, Ohio, Kansas, Pennsylvania, and Connecticut; and were received and accredited from Connecticut and Iowa, Ohio and Vermont.

The only business before the Committee on Grievances was a petition for the restoration of two companions who had been expelled for disobedience of a summons and non-payment of dues. The petitioners were made happy, by a restoration to all their rights and privileges, and we presume have acquired wisdom from the lesson they have received. When the Committee on Grievances enjoy a sinecure, it is satisfactory evidence that the white-winged angel of peace and harmony sits enthroned upon the altar. Six charters were granted for the perpetuation of Chapters under dispensation.

The thanks of the Grand Chapter were tendered to the retiring Grand High Priest for the able manner in which he had discharged his duties, and the Grand Secretary was instructed to procure and present to him a Past Grand High Priest's jewel as a token of their appreciation of his services. An excellent Report on Correspondence is presented by the Grand Secretary, Comp. JAMES H. MILES, in which he reviews with candor and courtesy the transactions of thirty-three Grand Chapters, noticing all matters of general interest to the Craft.

We should be better pleased if Comp. MILES would give us more of his own ideas upon the doings of his neighbors; he is liberal in quotations, but chary of his comments. We like to know, not only what our companions of other jurisdictions are doing, but what our brother reporters think about it.

There are one hundred and fifty-four Chapters in this jurisdiction, with an aggregate membership of 9411.

The *M. E.* GEORGE E. LOUNSBURY was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* JAMES H. MILES was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address: Chicago.

The Grand Chapter of Illinois held its twenty-fifth Annual Convocation in the city of Chicago on the twenty-ninth day of October 1874,—the *M. E.* GEORGE E. LOUNSBURY Grand High Priest presiding, the *R. E.* JAMES H. MILES being Grand Secretary. All the Grand Officers were present and one hundred and thirty-three subordinate Chapters were represented.

From the Address of the Grand High Priest we infer that the Royal Craft in that jurisdiction have lost none of their wonted zeal, and that peace and prosperity abide with them. Five dispensations were granted for the formation of new Chapters.

But three decisions were reported as follows:—

First—That a non-affiliated M. M., having received the degrees in a Chapter, is eligible to the office of H. P.

Second—That a R. A. Mason, under sentence of suspension or expulsion in the Blue Lodge, having taken an appeal, remains suspended or expelled in the Chapter until action is had upon his appeal by the Grand Lodge, his status in Chapter being same as in Lodge.

Third—That the Tyler of a Chapter has a right to vote.

All right except number one; that would not hold water in this jurisdiction, but perhaps the law in Illinois is different from our iron-clad California law, which requires all Royal Arch Masons to be members of, or contributors to, some Lodge. Of the third decision the Grand High Priest says:—

In making this last decision I was aware that I was deciding adversely to the decisions of eminent Masons of our State; and although I entertained but little doubt on the subject, still, before making the decision, I consulted with some of the best Masonic jurists in the United States, and as they concurred with me in the opinion that the acceptance of an office or position in any Masonic body could not act as a disfranchisement, I felt fully authorized in so deciding.

We cannot for the life of us understand why the Tyler, being a member of the Chapter, should, more than any other officer, be disfranchised.

The following remarks on hasty legislation we fully endorse; they will apply to other localities than Illinois:—

I desire to make a suggestion in this connection relative to what I term too hasty legislation. We have been too apt to meet here, and in the almost universal desire to expedite business, too little time is given to the consideration of questions that come before us; and our past records will show that some of my predecessors have been obliged to make decisions directly in the face of resolutions in force, which resolutions, upon a careful consideration, were shown to be clearly unconstitutional. Companions, "what is worth doing is worth doing well." If we meet here to legislate for the Craft, let us see to it that our action be not too hasty. Let us give full consideration to all motions or resolutions entertained, and not place ourselves in the mortifying position of having to reverse at one session of our Grand Body that which by hasty action and undue reflection has been done at a former one.

He announces the death of two distinguished members of the Grand Chapter, and eulogizes their character as men and Masons. He declares the position of Grand High Priest to be no sinecure, and when one hundred and sixty Chapters are to be superintended, we are prepared to agree with him.

Representatives were accredited from the Grand Chapters of New Jersey, Indiana, Pennsylvania, and Vermont.

The Grand Treasurer's report shows a balance of cash on hand of \$825 37.

The Report on Correspondence is again from the pen of the Grand Secretary, Comp. JAMES H. MILES. He notices the transactions of thirty-nine Grand Chapters, and selects from their doings such portions as are of general interest to the Craft. He quotes approvingly from the Address of Comp. DAVIES, and from our report of 1874. He contents himself generally with making judicious extracts from the Address of the several Grand High Priests, and Reports on Correspondence, leaving his readers to draw their own conclusions.

From his report we learn that the following officers were elected in the General Grand Chapter, which convened in the city of Nashville, Tennessee, in November last.

M. E. Comp. ELBERT H. ENGLISH, Arkansas,.....	G. G. High Priest.
M. E. Comp. JOHN FRIZZEL, Tennessee,.....	Dep. G. G. H. Priest.
M. E. Comp. ROBERT F. BOWER, Iowa,.....	G. G. King.
M. E. Comp. ALFRED F. CHAPMAN, Massachusetts,.....	G. G. Scribe.
M. E. Comp. JOHN McCLELLAN, Massachusetts,.....	G. G. Treasurer.
M. E. Comp. CHRISTOPHER G. FOX, New York,.....	G. G. Secretary.
M. E. Comp. NOBLE D. LARNER, District of Columbia,.....	G. G. Capt. of Host.

The city of Buffalo, N. Y., was selected, and the third Tuesday of August, 1877, as the time for the next Triennial Convocation.

Among the General Regulations we notice the following :—

16. *Resolved*, That the several Chapters in this State are prohibited from conferring any degrees upon non-affiliated Master Masons.—1859.

28. *Resolved*, That each subordinate Chapter within the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, shall purge itself of intemperance and profanity ; and that it be the duty of this Grand Chapter to arrest the Charter of any Chapter failing to comply with this resolution.

We hope, in view of the latter, that purgatives are plenty and cheap in our sister State.

Number of Chapters, 160. Membership, 9739.

M.:E.: WILLIAM A. J. DELANCEY was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R.:E.:* JAMES H. MILES was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address : Chicago.

INDIANA.

The Grand Chapter of Indiana held its twenty-ninth Annual Convocation in the city of Indianapolis, on the twenty-first day of October, 1874,—the *M.:E.:* ALEXANDER THOMAS, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R.:E.:* JOHN M. BRAMWELL being Grand Secretary. Seventy-eight chartered Chapters, and one under dispensation were represented at the opening.

The Royal Craft appears to be in a flourishing condition in our sister State, and no discordant note mars the general harmony which everywhere prevails.

From the Address of the Grand High Priest we extract the following :—

Here let us strive more and more as we advance in life, to raise the moral standard of our Order, until we can claim for it what its merits deserve : that there are none of its members who are not “moral and upright before God, and of good repute before the world.”

Capitular Masonry never occupied a more exalted position than at the present time ; we hear good news from all quarters—from the East, the West, the North, and the South come tidings of prosperity and a high moral standard.

Let us strive for the time when we can say, that the profane swearer, the gambler, the drunkard, *and the man who makes drunkards*, has no part or lot in the household of Masonry.

To which we say, Amen !

The Grand High Priest decided that an objection made to a candidate after being elected to receive the degrees, held good until such objection was withdrawn, or the objecting companion ceased to be a member of the Chapter. He does not appear to be exactly satisfied with the decision for he says :—

“This decision was rendered in accordance with what I believed to be the law, although not in exact accordance with my own views, neither could I make anything different in this particular case, from the fact that the objector was one of the committee, and made a favorable report and voted accordingly, but decided on the general principle that *all members* must have and enjoy equal rights.

The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom the decision was referred, reported as follows, which accords with our ideas and with the practice in this jurisdiction :—

As a general rule, we think that an objection interposed after a clear ballot has been had is but a negative vote, and can have no more power or influence than the black ball, and upon the objection being made, the High Priest should have declared the applicant rejected. This would have placed him only back into the position he occupied before his petition was presented to the Chapter. Were we to place a different construction upon our laws, we think vast evil might ensue in consequence. A turbulent member might let the ballot pass, as in this case, even make a favorable report, as the committee to whom the petition had been referred, then interpose his objection, and thus preclude indefinitely the petitioner from advancing further, or again petitioning that or any other Chapter for the degrees, however unworthy the objections might be.

In this jurisdiction, unless the objection is withdrawn within sixty days, the applicant is declared rejected, and at the expiration of six months he may apply again for the degrees. We think the idea of the committee is sound, and we are glad to record that their report was concurred in.

The Grand High Priest also decided that a companion, against whom charges were preferred in the blue Lodge, and who had been arraigned for trial, could not be granted a dimit until acquitted by the Lodge. We concur.

Representatives were appointed near the Grand Chapters of Illinois, Connecticut, and New Jersey.

From the financial reports we find a balance in the Grand Treasury of \$3412 58, which, together with surplus funds loaned, \$5500, makes the total assets of the Grand Chapter, \$8942 58.

An interesting report upon the subject of physical qualifications was presented by the Committee on Jurisprudence, and, as this subject has caused much argument and ink-shed in this jurisdiction, we give the report entire for the benefit of our companions.

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence report; that at the last Communication of the Grand Chapter, there was referred to it the following question: "Under the laws of the Grand Chapter, does the loss of the right foot render a brother Master Mason ineligible to receive the Chapter Degrees?" The Committee not then having time to examine the law with that care the importance of the question seemed to require, was granted until the present Communication to give an answer.

Why the term "right foot" is used instead of the left, is not very clear, for if the left has any particular duties to perform, it would be difficult to perform them without the aid of the right, or if the right could be artificially supplied, with equal propriety might the left, or indeed, both; and, if both, so might the right and left arm. How much of an artificial candidate might be used, upon which to confer the degrees, is unnecessary to discuss, being of the opinion that the natural man is not only the best, but the only subject upon which to confer the degrees of Masonry.

Was the question, whether the degree of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, or Master Mason could be conferred upon one who had lost either the right or left foot, we think there would be but little hesitation among the well informed in answering in the negative. It may then be important to ascertain whether the Royal Arch is a part of Ancient Craft Masonry, and also whether anciently, the three first degrees contained all of Ancient Craft Masonry, for if they did it would doubtless require the same perfection morally, mentally and physically to receive any part of it, no matter how much dissevered or divided. Whatever perfection was necessary to obtain it, when consisting of three degrees only, would be no less necessary, regardless of the number of degrees into which it might be divided. If it require certain qualifications to enjoy the privileges and perform the duties of the first degree, it certainly will require an equal, if not greater, perfection to enjoy the privileges and perform the duties when those enjoyments and duties are greatly increased; so that if there is greater privileges and duties (and there doubtless is) in the Royal Arch than in the Master Mason's degree, there certainly should be no less ability; or, if the Master's Degree ever contained the essential and distinguishing feature of the Royal Arch, the qualifications to receive it should be no less in the seventh degree than in the third.

A learned Masonic writer (Dr. MACKEY), says that the essential character of the Royal Arch degree, is the *true word*, which Dr. OLIVER in his history of the Royal Arch, says he found in a Master Mason's tracing board, of the date of 1725. Our traditions teach us that the Master Mason had that word, and he certainly had, or he never could have lost it. Dr. OLIVER, who has given us more Masonic history than any other author, says that the *word* had not at that time been severed from the third degree and transferred to another, and that the Royal Arch had not then been fabricated.

Dr. ANDERSON is taken by all subsequent Masonic writers as the foundation or starting point for written Masonic history. In the lecture of the third degree, as prepared by him and DESAGULIERS, it is said "that which was lost is now found," which Dr. OLIVER construes to mean that the Master Mason's word was delivered to the newly raised Mason in the latter ceremonies of the third degree.

Dr. MACKEY says; "The result of our investigations, in which we have mainly relied on the authority of the learned OLIVER, is that, until the year 1740, the essential element of the Royal Arch constituted a component part of the Master's degree, and was of course its concluding portion; that as a degree, it was not at all recognized, being but the complement of one; that about that time it was dissevered from its original connection, and elevated to the position, and invested with the form of a distinct degree, by the body which called itself 'the Grand Lodge of England according to the old constitution,' but which is more familiarly known as the Dermot or the Athol Grand Lodge, and frequently as the Ancients.'"

Now, if it be true that the "essential character" of the Royal Arch was originally a part of the Master Mason's degree, it would seem to necessarily follow that the qualifications to receive should be the same, regardless of the number of the

degree in which it is received. But as there is some diversity of opinion on that point, we will refer to the action of some of the Grand Bodies bearing on the question of physical qualifications. We have not been able to find any opinion expressed upon the question directly before us, that is, as to the loss of the "right foot."

The Grand Chapter of Ohio, in 1849, adopted the following:

"Resolved, That it is improper and contrary to the well established rules and regulations governing Royal Arch Masonry, to confer the degrees over which a Royal Arch Chapter has jurisdiction, upon one who is not of hale and entire limbs."

This resolution was the result of an application to confer the degrees upon one who had lost the right arm.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Chapter of Missouri, in 1851, uses this language: "We consider the original rule that the candidate shall be of 'hale and entire limbs, as a man ought to be,' can not be changed or modified by any changes which may have been introduced by reason of the more modern speculative character of Masonry."

The Grand Chapter of New York, in 1852, adopted the following resolution:

"Resolved, That we do not believe that Chapters have a right to confer the degrees upon Master Masons who have lost an arm, or who are under disability either to receive the degrees in Masonry, impart them, or be recognized as a regularly made companion."

In 1850, the General Grand Chapter of the United States appointed a Committee consisting of Comps. PHILIP TUCKER, SCOTT J. TALLMAN, and WILLIAM T. GOULD, to report on the physical qualifications of candidates, at its next triennial meeting, which was held at Lexington, in Kentucky, in September, 1853. The committee after a pretty thorough examination of the subject, as is shown by the report, failed to offer anything definite for action, but Companion TUCKER offered this resolution:

"Resolved, That it is competent and Masonically lawful for Royal Arch Chapters to confer the respective degrees of Masonry within their jurisdictions upon all candidates whose defects of bodily qualifications are not such as to prevent them from conforming literally to what such degrees respectively required, if in other respects qualified."

Companion MACKAY moved to amend by striking out all after the word resolved and insert "that no Royal Arch Chapter should take a candidate unless he is a perfect man, having no main or defect in his body that may render him incapable of learning the art." Companion GILMAN moved to amend the amendment by striking out all after the word "that" and insert "it is incompetent for Royal Arch Chapters to confer the respective degrees of Masonry upon candidates whose physical defects are such as to prevent them from conforming literally to all the requirements of those degrees." The amendment to the amendment was adopted.

In 1863, the Grand Chapter of New York, in accordance with the resolution it had adopted in 1852, as above quoted, decided that a Master Mason who had lost his left arm after being a Master Mason could not be made a Royal Arch Mason.

In 1861, the Committee on Jurisprudence of this Grand Chapter, made a report on the question of physical qualifications, in which it used the following language: "Your committee would suggest that a brother who had lost his left arm could not comply literally with the ceremonies of either of the degrees, not only in one, but in many particulars." And further, "your committee further believe that it is best to adhere strictly to the old 'landmarks'—that all applicants for the privileges of Masonry must be perfect, 'having no maim or defect in his body that may render him incapable of learning the art.'" The report, after full discussion, was adopted by the Grand Chapter, by a majority of ninety-nine out of one hundred and fifteen.

In the Grand Chapter of Connecticut, in 1852, a committee reported in favor of leaving the decision of the qualifications of the candidate to the Chapter to which application was made for the degrees, but what action the Grand Chapter took upon the report, we are not advised. The same year this Grand Chapter adopted a resolution leaving the question to the judgment of the subordinate Chapter; such legislation being productive of such a diversity of decisions and confusion of practice, as to be of very doubtful propriety, to say the least of it.

By a close examination of the fourth of the old charges, we may not only learn what are the qualifications necessary to receive the degrees, but also the reasons for the law, the principal one of which is, that all Masons should be on a level, equally eligible and able to fill all offices. A man with but one foot or one hand, or who could not see or could not hear, could never fill any office, because he could not either truly learn or teach the rituals. The law don't leave us barely to infer that these are the reasons of its wording, but it plainly sets forth the fact by adding, "that so when otherwise qualified, he may arrive to the honor of being the Warden, and then the Master of the Lodge, the Grand Warden, and at length the Grand Master of all the Lodges, according to merit."

There is, perhaps, no principle in Masonry better settled or more universally admitted than that those who seek admission must be free from any maim or defect

that would render him incapable of learning and teaching the Royal Art; but what is such a maim or defect is not so well settled as to prevent differences of opinion, and upon which there is less unanimity than there is upon the point that he must be capable.

While Masonry was more operative than speculative there was less difficulty in deciding the question. While it was more operative, many of its important landmarks were adopted and upon which speculative Maonry was constructed. These landmarks are unchangeable. If we may change one we may change another and another, until all might be removed, If we may change the physical, why not the moral and mental; why not take the youth in his non-age, the aged in dotage, the atheist, the irreligious libertine, the madman, the idiot? yea, why not accept the mother and sister, the wife and daughter? These must all submit to the unchangeable laws of the institution. If it is only the mental and moral qualifications that recommends the applicant, the "better half" of our race is eminently qualified for admission; but the laws forbid, and they submit without a murmur. Many who have lost an arm or a foot may be both morally and mentally qualified, but not physically, and why should they not also submit? It is their misfortune, not the fault of the law. The sightless and speechless may be endowed with the highest intellectual qualifications, but the law forbids their admission, and we have no more right to now change the law, than we have power to restore the sight or the hearing. Let us not remove the landmarks our fathers have set. The weight of authority is largely against the admission of the maimed, and the Committee are of the opinion that the loss of any limb necessary to learn and teach the art is such a defect that renders an applicant disqualified to receive any of the degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry, and that the loss of a foot, whether the right or the left, is such a defect as to render the applicant disqualified.

We offer for adoption the following resolution:—

"*Resolved*, That the loss of an arm or a foot renders an applicant disqualified to receive any of the degrees conferred in a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons."

Which report was concurred in and the resolution accompanying it was adopted.

The Grand Chapter having hitherto termed its annual meetings Communications, resolved to change the term and hereafter to designate them as Annual Convocations, which we believe to be a change for the better. Convocation has some significance as applied to a meeting or gathering of persons for any purpose; but we are at a loss to discover where Communication becomes applicable in such a sense, although such is the term used by our own Grand Lodge.

It appears to be the custom in this jurisdiction for the Grand High Priest to write the Report on Correspondence, and Comp. THOMAS has given us a specimen of his skill in this line which proves him to be a master of the art, and compensates us for the failure on the part of his predecessor to report last year. He reviews in a pleasant and courteous manner the transactions of thirty-five Grand Chapters, selecting and judiciously commenting upon such matters as are of general interest to the Craft, and we are pleased to see that his ideas are generally in accordance with our own.

There are in this admirable report, points which are tangible; something to grasp, to reflect upon, and write about; the writer does not, as is too frequently the case with Masonic reporters, content himself with simply telling us what others have done, but gives us his own ideas touching the propriety and legality of the transactions which come under his notice. It is such a report as we are willing to sit up until the "wee small hours" to read and digest, and we would be delighted to welcome Comp. THOMAS as a permanent member of the M. A. S. California for 1874, receives courteous notice at his hands. He compliments us for giving the names of the officers and members of our Chapters in full, which compliment we cannot appropriate, as in doing so we are simply complying with a regulation of the Grand Chapter, one however which we consider an excellent one, and would be glad to see it generally adopted. In his review of Connecticut he says the following on the Representative system:—

The practice of appointing Representatives of Grand Chapters near other Grand Chapters having become very general, and believing it would not be attended with evil consequences, the Grand High Priest indulged in the pastime, to the extent of ten, Indiana included.

The greatest desire on this subject now is to find something for these Grand Representatives to do—something whereby they may be found useful as well as ornamental. However, let us not discourage the custom. This is an age of progress, and there is no telling but that in the course of time they may be a necessity, and then the practice commenced as a compliment to some individual, may become a great blessing to the craft. Watch and wait and hope for something to turn up; there certainly should something good come of it.

Would it not be a good plan for the Grand Representatives to hold a national convention at some central point, say Cincinnati, Louisville, or St. Louis, at no distant day, and when their combined notions on the subject are all got together, some plan may be selected and a regular system adopted and the duties plainly defined; then some good might result; until then, wait.

The custom of appointing representatives near other Grand Chapters is rapidly gaining ground; even old Massachusetts has given in at last and acknowledged the system. We have hopes of Indiana yet, and do not despair of welcoming, at no distant day, a representative of that Grand Chapter, near the Grand Chapter of California.

From the statistical table we learn that there are eighty-six subordinate Chapters upon the registry, with an aggregate membership of 4567, being an increase of 235 over last year.

The *M. E.* GEORGE H. FISH was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* JOHN M. BRAMWELL was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address: Indianapolis.

IOWA.

The Grand Chapter of Iowa held its twenty-first Annual Convocation in Dubuque, commencing on the twentieth day of October, 1874,—the *M. E.* ROBERT F. BOWER, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* WILLIAM B. LANGRIDGE being Grand Secretary. Thirty-six chartered Chapters and seven under dispensation were represented at the opening.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is an able and interesting paper. He sets forth his official acts in a clear and lucid manner; and his decisions upon questions of law are generally in accordance with our own ideas. Usually BOWER is right, and when the Right Bower is turned up we pass. We learn from the address that the Order has been “eminently prosperous, and the companions zealous and untiring in propagating the Royal art.”

The handsome sum of six hundred dollars was contributed for the relief of the companions who were suffering from the terrible pestilence in Tennessee, and the Grand High Priest is pleased to notice the alacrity and liberality with which Masons of our country respond to the appeals of their suffering brethren. Six dispensations were issued for the formation of new Chapters, which speaks well for the growth of the Order in Iowa. Eighteen special dispensations were issued for sundry purposes, which *does not* speak so well.

In our report of last year we noticed the fact that the High Priest of a Chapter under dispensation was suspended for intemperance. We are rejoiced to learn that the discipline in this case has proved salutary, and that the reformation of the companion is complete and satisfactory to the Grand High Priest, who warmly recommended his restoration, which was done. A few such examples will prove more efficacious in rooting out the vice of intemperance than all the lectures and writings which year after year are fulminated against it.

The jurisdictional rights of Iowa having been invaded by a subordinate Chapter of Missouri, upon complaint being made to the Grand High Priest of the latter jurisdiction, prompt and ample satisfaction was rendered; the offending Chapter was required to apologize and refund the fee, which was done. The Iowa Chapter, however, magnanimously refused to accept the money, but returned it, stating that “it was not mercenary motives which governed them, but a desire to protect their jurisdiction from invasion.” The Grand High Priest very truly says: “The fraternal spirit evinced by the *M. E.* Grand High Priest of Missouri is truly commendable

and fully appreciated, and if the same sentiments more generally prevailed, the spirit of Masonry would be more successfully carried out." We note the following decisions, and, if we cannot agree with all of them, we hope to be forgiven.

Decisions of the Grand High Priest:

In reply to a query, whether after a brother had taken a Mark Master's degree, his advancement can be prevented by a companion objecting thereto, I answered that the law in the case is unequivocal and that the rule in our State is that a companion can object to the conferring of any of the degrees at any time, and that the candidate cannot proceed any further until said companion withdraws his objection.

In reply to the query, whether in case of a failure to elect, the High Priest holds over, I decided that the High Priest continued in office until his successor was elected and installed, and that it was not necessary for him to be re-installed.

To the query: "A Master Mason in good standing who claims to have petitioned a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Missouri during the rebellion, was regularly elected, and received the Mark Master's degree, but before he could go any further, said Chapter was broken up, its seal and records destroyed, and it has never been organized since: How is he to proceed to get the balance of the degrees?" I replied, if the Chapter was in operation it would be necessary to get their certificate of the above facts with their recommendation, and then the balance of the degrees could be conferred. In this case, however, the Chapter being defunct, and there being no evidence of the above facts, he must be treated simply as a Master Mason. He must send in his petition and let it take the regular course. Of course, if he could prove himself a Mark Master, you would have to recognize him as such, and treat him accordingly.

To the query, whether a member of a Chapter can object to a candidate receiving the degrees, or any of them, after he had been duly elected, without giving any reason, I replied, Yes.

To the query, whether it was necessary to ballot for every degree, I replied, *First*, In my opinion, the ballot should always be spread for every degree; but in our country the usage generally adopted is to ballot only once, and if not objected to, that answers for all the degrees.

To the query: "What time does a petitioner have to wait, before he can send in a new petition, in cases where he has been rejected for Chapter degrees?" I replied that our Grand Chapter Statutes and Regulations were silent upon that subject, and I could not find any decision or ruling in our proceedings; that the laws that govern Chapters are very meagre and that in the absence of any guide I would adopt the ruling of our Grand Lodge, which makes six months intervene before a new petition can be presented. I therefore decided that a candidate six months after his rejection may present a new petition for the degrees.

To a query as to whether it was necessary for a companion to sign the By-Laws of his Chapter, I replied that the law requires every member to sign the By-Laws, and that unless he does so he is not a member of the Chapter.

The companions of Tabernacle Lodge, No. 52, at Waterloo, desired to meet in another Masonic hall in the same town but on the opposite side of the river, for the convenience of conferring the degrees upon some brothers who resided there, to which I gave my consent.

In reply to a query as to the *status* of a companion suspended in a Lodge, I referred to the following resolution of the Grand Chapter:—

"That suspension or expulsion of a member from a symbolic Lodge (he being a Royal Arch Mason) shall *de facto* operate as a suspension or expulsion from all the rights and privileges of a Royal Arch Mason."—*Grand Chapter Constitution*, page 24, II.

The following question was submitted to me by *Dubuque* Chapter, No. 3:—

"A companion who was suspended from his [*Dubuque*] Chapter, about eleven years ago, for non-payment of dues, now wishes to petition the Chapter for reinstatement. He is not affiliated with any Lodge, nor has he declared his intention to do so, but claims that the Chapter is bound to reinstate him, and then if he does not affiliate with a Lodge at the end of one year the Chapter can suspend him."

I replied: My opinion is that he has a right to be restored, and that upon his application and the payment of his arrears, the Chapter must proceed in the usual way to reinstate him. His neglect of duty afterwards is another consideration and must be treated accordingly. The Grand Chapter cannot pass an *ex post facto* law.

A brother who received the first three degrees of a Chapter in Indiana, and afterwards removed to Iowa, desired to know how he could be exalted and become a member in this jurisdiction. I replied that the Chapter in Iowa could exalt him by the consent of the Chapter in Indiana, and then by signing the By-Laws of the Iowa Chapter he became a member thereof.

The High Priest of *Corinthian* Chapter, No. 14, asked the following questions:

1st. "A brother, a member of a Lodge in Des Moines, applied for and was duly elected to receive the degrees in the Chapter, but before taking them, removed to Davenport and the Chapter there claimed him. Which has jurisdiction?"

2d. "Is it necessary that every Royal Arch Mason in this jurisdiction should affiliate with some blue Lodge?"

To which I replied:

1st. That the Des Moines Chapter has jurisdiction, and that the Chapter at Davenport must not confer the degrees without their consent.

2d. A general regulation of our Grand Chapter requires all Royal Arch Masons in this jurisdiction to affiliate with some blue Lodge, and it becomes your duty to see that said regulation is carried into effect. [See pages 468 and 470, *Proceedings*, 1872.]

At a regular meeting of Iowa City Chapter No. 2, the first three officers not being present, there was no meeting, but the Secretary wrote in the record book as follows:

"Regular meeting of Iowa City Chapter No. 2. Present:— [Then follows the names of several companions.] As neither of the chief officers were present, the Chapter did not open."

At the next regular meeting the Secretary read the above as the minutes of a (?) meeting. The High Priest ruled that the Secretary was not authorized to make any record whatever, but as some companions dissented from his decision, he wrote to me for mine. I replied that it is the duty of the Secretary to record the proceedings of every meeting; but as there was no meeting of said Chapter, there was nothing to record, hence I ruled that what he did was out of order and unauthorized.

To the question as to what action should be taken by a Chapter relative to a member who was suspended in his Lodge, I replied: "The suspension of a brother in his Lodge, *de facto* suspends him from all the rights and privileges of Royal Arch Masonry; and the High Priest (being convinced of the same) will cause it to be entered of record by your Secretary."

Being deprived of all his Masonic rights, the Chapter will of course return him as suspended. [See *Constitution of Grand Chapter*, resolution II, page 24; also, *report of Committee*, page 32.]

To the query, "Is it necessary for a brother who, as Master of a Lodge, has the degree of Past Master conferred on him in a Lodge of Past Masters, to take the degree of Past Master in a Royal Arch Chapter," I replied, "It is."

To the queries, 1st—"Can a brother, whose residence is in Iowa, take the Capitular degrees in Missouri?"

2d—"Can a Chapter refuse to permit a companion not a member, to visit them?"

I replied:

1st—"That the brother's residence being in Iowa, we have jurisdiction over him, and the Chapter in Missouri has no right to confer the degrees without our consent."

2d—"That the right of a companion to visit a Chapter is merely an act of courtesy on the part of said Chapter, and that their High Priest has a perfect right to forbid him, if he chooses."

The question was asked me, "Whether a brother, whose petition had been favorably acted on, but whose advancement was objected to by a member, which objection was recorded, could not again petition?"

To which I replied, "That the brother's petition having been already acted on, it would be entirely inadmissible to receive another petition, and the only way to proceed was, for the companion to withdraw his objection, and place the same on record, and then confer the degree. A companion has a perfect right to object without stating his reasons. His objection cannot be gainsaid, but must be respected until it is withdrawn."

The question was asked me, "Whether an installed officer of a Chapter can resign and dimit?"

To which I replied, "That any officer wishing to resign, can do so, except the High Priest. I believe that no installed officer should resign, unless for some good reason; and there is no law to prevent any companion from dimitting that desires to. Of course the companions dimitting understand their status."

With the majority of these decisions we are in full accord; but there is now and then one which we cannot fully indorse; for instance, that if a companion does not sign the By-Laws, he is not a member of the Chapter.

We agree with the Committee on Jurisprudence who reported as follows:—

We think the requirement to sign the By-Laws simply directory. We think a legitimate child is actually the son of his mother, and a member of the family, without his name being written in the bible, though the law may require it to be written there.

The Grand Chapter however, couldn't see the point. They probably thought that, although the child was undoubtedly the son of his mother, the case might be open to doubt as to the father—so the *Right Bower* took the trick.

Again, with reference to the companion who had been "out in the cold" for eleven years, and now desired the broad mantle of the Chapter to be again thrown over him, without first getting under the blanket of the Lodge—the decision of the Grand High Priest may be right under the laws of Iowa, but in this jurisdiction we should have decided that none but Master Masons in good standing can hold membership in a Royal Arch Chapter. A brother who has remained non-affiliated for a period of eleven years, is not, under our laws, a Master Mason in good standing, and therefore no *Masonic* communication can be held with him until he first places himself in good standing.

The Committee on Jurisprudence pick up the Right Bower and "play it alone," in their report on the decision, as follows:—

We hold this regulation "requiring a companion to be a member of all the lower or subordinate Lodges," to be a violation of the ancient regulations, and this Grand Chapter has no right to require it. It requires a *purse* qualification, instead of the ancient qualification of the head and heart, and makes the members of the higher degrees a set of nabobs instead of a band of brothers, who can best work and agree.

It appears from the above that there is a regulation requiring Royal Arch Masons to be members of Lodges; and in view of this just, proper, and common-sense regulation, we find it impossible to reconcile the decision of the Grand High Priest with either the letter or spirit of the law. As for the report of the Committee, we confess our surprise to find such doctrines promulgated over the signature of the distinguished Mason who occupies the position of chairman of the Committee on Jurisprudence. We would be pleased to see the "ancient regulation" that is violated by requiring Masons to do their duty, and we have no sympathy with the "nabobs" who would take their ease in the tabernacle, while their brethren are at work in the quarries. "For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should they eat." This doctrine is as sound to-day as it was in the days of St. Paul, and as for the "purse qualifications" referred to by the Committee, we believe it to be the duty of every man—first, to provide for the necessities of life, and then, if his *purse* will admit of it, he may indulge in the *luxuries*.

The report of the committee was referred to the Committee on Codification of By-Laws, which committee, we trust, will retain the present regulation. The regulation requiring the High Priests of subordinate Chapters to pocket the charter and carry it home after every meeting, was very properly rescinded. We are of the opinion that the charter is much more likely to be burned in the house of the High Priest than in a hall where fire is seldom introduced. The following resolution is slightly ambiguous:—

Resolved, That the Grand High Priest and Grand Treasurer be appointed a committee to see to the condition of the indebtedness of Companion of J. L. CHASE, and if the present security be not sufficient, to require additional security or to collect the amount due forthwith, at their discretion.

Who the companion of J. L. C. is, does not appear; but we are sorry for CHASE if the condition of the aforesaid companion's indebtedness is not satisfactory.

We notice, with fear and trembling, that Comps. GUILBERT, LUSE, and LAW were appointed as a Committee on Correspondence. We once got fearfully scarified by the reporter for Iowa, for perpetrating a joke upon Comp. GUILBERT, and our wounds were scarcely healed by the emollient qualities of Comp. PARVIN's report, when this announcement sets us in a fever of trepidation. We pray GUILBERT to be merciful, but if he chooses to let himself *Luse* on us in his next report, we hope to be able to keep *Law* on our side.

In the following we have the extraordinary spectacle of a *pro tem.* officer refusing to take his *wages* when offered him:—

Resolved, That there be appropriated the sum of twenty-eight dollars to pay the expenses of Comp. L. as Grand Captain of the Host *pro tem.*, and that the expenses of all other *pro tem.* officers for the present session of this body be paid.

Comp. L. declined to receive the amount, on the ground that he did not desire to establish a precedent of this character. We have no doubt that, the *other pro tems* duly appreciated the self-denying policy of Comp. L.

The newly elected officers of the Grand Chapter were escorted to the Methodist Episcopal Church by the Grand Commandery and two subordinate Commanderies of Knights Templar, where they were duly installed by the *M. E. THEO. S. PARVIN*, Past Grand High Priest.

After the installation, Past Grand High Priest GUILBERT delivered an able, eloquent and most interesting oration, which we would gladly transfer intact to our pages, had we space. We can only, however, give a few extracts as specimens of this admirable production:—

It is fitting that once in a while we should leave the treadmill of our "necessary vocations" and come together, as now, in our annual feast of tabernacles, to renew old acquaintances, to gather new friends to our hearts, and earnestly take part in that dear and delightful sociality which it is the aim of all of us to dominate our labor-filled annual convocations. It is well that these rifts of light are allowed to illuminate the horizon of our daily cares, for did they not, existence would be bereft of half its pleasures, and we should sink into vegetable lives, whose type would be that of the brute that merely eats and works and dies. It is "very meet and proper" that our public ceremonial of installation should be exemplified in this place, dedicated to the worship of the Great I AM, for thus do we show to the world that it is our pleasure, as it is "our bounden duty," on all occasions, to avow in plain terms the fact that religion and Masonry were inseparably united in the halcyon days of the long ago, and that he would be, not only an audacious, but also a very bad man, and forsworn Mason, who would, by word or deed, seek to accomplish their divorcement. Being thus well met on this festival occasion, it is deemed necessary by our esteemed Grand High Priest that the occasion should be signalized by an exposition of the history, symbolism, and lovely aims of that world-wide institution which to-day

"As in the world's new spring,
Walks forth transparent, like some holy thing."

Such, my hearers, is the vivid, but necessarily brief outline of the descent to modern times of the associative idea as particularly illustrated in our institution around which has ever floated, like an atmosphere, the smile of Omnipotence.

Despite the bulls of venal popes, the prosecutions of kingly bigots, and the puerile anathemas of graceless Blanchards, that smile has endued the Order with wonderful vitality, and to-day it is more active and more morally aggressive than ever before in its history. So, too, it is more widely disseminated, for in this generation its alter-fires belt the globe with their fascinating and holy illumination, as the broad ribbons of light encircle the planet Saturn.

In this connection I may mention a fact which is of interest to every student of Masonic history, viz., this: While the birth-place of our institution was, like that of its mistress, pure religion, in the legendary soil of Judea, no Lodge has been seated in Jerusalem, "the city of the Great King" since the days of the crusades. It has been reserved for the present year to see a Lodge planted there under the master-ship and auspices of that genial and true-hearted brother, the Kentuckian ROB MORRIS, whose rare abilities, despite his faults, have endeared him to every chivalric American Mason. Let us hope that in the present as in the past century, the erection of a Masonic altar on this hallowed soil, which has so long been dominated by ignorance, may be the means, as in the aforetime, of supplying the flame at which shall be enkindled to burn with increasing brightness for evermore, the torches of tolerance and civilization. To this sentiment every Mason, every lover of culture and progress, will surely respond, Amen!

It is refreshing to read the following, when compared with the usual descriptions of such festivities. All honor to the Grand Chapter of Iowa, for having discovered and acted upon the fact, that Masonic *Jollifications* may be successfully conducted without the aid of intoxicating drinks.

AFTERWARDS.

On the evening of Thursday, the fraternity of Dubuque entertained the Masonic visitors to the city at a banquet and hop, of which all who partook spoke in the highest praise. The Grand Secretary, distrustful of his ability to do justice to the occasion, subjoins the following notice clipped from the *Dubuque Times* of the next morning, endorsing heartily its utterance that "the Masonic brethren from abroad" were treated royally, and better yet, with true fraternal courtesy by all with whom they came in contact in Dubuque, and that they will long remember with pleasure the Annual Convocation of 1874.

THE EVENING.

For the evening a grand banquet and ball had been announced. This had kept society circles in excitement for a week, and on a tiptoe of expectation. It was the "event of the season." As early as half past seven o'clock a stream of carriages was rolling towards the Julian House, bearing precious loads of daintily wrapped ladies and attendants to the banquet and the ball. There was a flutter of excitement in many a gilded home as the sound of wheels ceased at the door. The hour had come, the "event" was on. The parlors were early thronged with guests; ladies in the brightest attire and most careful toilet—the rustle of silks answering back the rattle of sabres that dangled at the sides of plumed Knights. Many of the gentlemen were in plain evening dress, but the Knights were the marked personages, and found most favor, as was proper, in the eyes of the fair Hebes.

THE BANQUET HALL.

It was just half past nine o'clock when the dining-room doors were opened and the guests filed in, each Knight with a lady leaning on his arm. The main table was in the form of a cross, extending the whole length and breadth of the capacious dining rooms. Smaller tables filled up the space between, and in two or three rooms adjoining the dining-rooms tables were spread. The chandeliers were twined with evergreens, and the window seats were bright and fragrant with pot plants from Harkett's nurseries.

The Bill of Fare is a long one, and makes our mouth water as we read; but the principal feature, and one which meets our hearty approbation, is under the head of "*Beverages*." Here we find only "Green Tea, Coffee, and Black Tea." *Mirabile dictu!* that pestilent jade, the widow Clicquot, and those demoniac old reprobates who have brought more sorrow, affliction, and disease into the world than all other causes combined, viz.: "Old Bourbon" and "Old Rye," found no place at that banquet. The "feast of reason and the flow of soul" followed the discussion of the edibles; the reason being unclouded by *obfuscating* libations, and the "flow of soul" flowed solely from fountains untainted by impure and poisonous mixtures. Dancing closed the entertainment, and when the shrill notes of the vigilant Shanghai heralded the rosy dawn, Knights, Ladies, Companions and Brethren,

With clear head and steady tread,
Betook themselves to home and bed.

We hope the example set by our Companions of Iowa will be followed by every Masonic Body in the world.

Comp. T. S. PARVIN presents the Report on Correspondence. He says it was prepared under adverse circumstances, and this being the case we would give something to have the privilege of perusing one written by him when all was serene. He thus prefaces one of the best reports we have yet enjoyed:—

In presenting to the Grand Chapter and corps reportorial this report, I regret that, after so long a rest from this species of labor, I have been compelled to prepare it under adverse circumstances. I have had to reverse the old maxim, "Drive your business!" and been so driven by it that I am under the necessity of sending this out in the crude form in which it was hurriedly written. The labor of preparing such a report, now-a-days, is greatly increased from the enlarged size of the proceedings now annually published, extending into the multiplied thousands of pages.

Some of the reporters, we have observed, notice only the reports on correspondence, omitting all reference, very unwisely we think, to the transactions of the Grand Chapters. Some make up their reports wholly of lengthened extracts without original matter, while other, and much the better class, freely comment upon what they notice, and give their reasons for approval or dissent from the doctrines considered. It is the opinions of the reviewer, quite as much as of the reviewed, that we want, and without which the report loses much of its interest and value.

But few questions of general interest pervade the majority of the reports. We notice that the change made in the G. O. W. by the General Grand Chapter in 1871 is not universally concurred in, and that body seems powerless to enforce its edicts, hence, all hope of uniformity, even in so vital a matter, is hopeless. The substitute question is unsettled, though a large majority advocate and practice their use. How far a Chapter will allow its members to be controlled by action of the Lodge remains unsettled, while a new question has sprung up, "Will the Chapters insist upon their members affiliating with the Lodges?" We have expressed our opinion freely upon all of them, and all other subjects considered, believing it is only by a free exchange

of opinions that any vexed question can be settled. We regret to find, now and then, a reporter and Grand High Priest who *get mad* at any one who honestly differs from them upon a point of law ; to all such, so far as we are concerned, we have only to say, they can get in a good humor at their leisure ; we care not.

We have been greatly interested and instructed in the perusal of these voluminous pages, many of them models of style and logic, while among so many some are of course inferior in their standard ; others have occasionally amused us and so served to relieve the weight of labor imposed. With many we have renewed our early acquaintance and friendship, and with others formed pleasing acquaintance.

Instead of following the beaten track and presenting with each body the time and place, etc., etc., of each meeting, we have conformed to our statistical predilection and given all such information in a general table.

We regret that several proceedings have not reached us. We have received those whose columns are filled out.

He then reviews the transactions of thirty-three Grand Chapters, in a style which is simply admirable. He makes but few extracts, but in his own inimitable way states what was done and what he thinks about it. California, for 1874, receives a large share of his attention. He speaks of the humble efforts of the writer in terms which call forth our warmest thanks, and we feel encouraged and stimulated to greater exertions by praise from such a source. He says of us :—

Comp. WIGGIN is no friend to the doctrine of vested rights, but believes the Grand High Priest, like other officers, subject to the laws of the body he serves or governs, if you please, under the law. Chapters and Grand Chapters are modern things, the creatures of the law, and therefore under, not above it, we hold with our intelligent and *fearless* writer over the way. We like him and like his report because he has a mind of his own, and is not afraid to speak out in meeting. When we read a report, we want to know on which side of the fence the writer is, and no one need or can indeed doubt as to Comp. WIGGIN, whose voluminous report is both readable and valuable for what it contains and the manner in which he says it. He is in favor of using “substitutes,” and says in addition that when the supreme legislative head of the craft authorizes it, we commit no wrong when we avail ourselves of the permission. All history teaches that the practice was and has been allowed in all the old jurisdictions in all the past. It is only the new *lights* of recent Grand Chapters, and newly made members who have discovered its un-masonic character. The fastidiousness of such sensitive brethren always remind us of a servant girl in our family, who even refused the pudding, because of the dip which was flavored with brandy, though two preachers of her church, dining with us that day, each called for a double portion. Some folk are always wiser than their teachers.

He quotes the following from the report of Comp. CORSON, of New Jersey, on the subject of writing the work of Masonry, brought out by our report of last year :—

We beg leave to remark that *this*, (the writing of the work of Royal Arch Masonry) seems to us to be a very *loose* proceeding for Grand High Priest LUSE to be guilty of as well as a very improper performance for all parties concerned ; and this for reasons which we cannot put in print, but which will at once be understood by everyone who properly regards his O. B. as an E. A.

In this connection he says :—

It is nothing, Bros. CORSON and WIGGIN, when you get used to it. Once we kicked and floundered and thundered, but all in vain—the Masters and High Priests had found the royal road to geometry in print, and you could no more deprive them of their idol, than drive a suckling from the teat upon which he fed.

From the above we infer that Comp. PARVIN stands just where we expected to find him, in opposition to all such unmasonic practices. Under the head of Canada, he says :—

Comp. R. quotes the recommendation of the Grand High Priest of Tennessee in favor of biennial sessions, as do we ; for if there is any one truth more self-evident in the world and Masonry than another, it is that we are governed too much. Better a session once in four years than two each year, as is growing into use in some parts of the land.

Recently the most excellent and distinguished Grand Secretary, THOMAS BIRD HARRIS, who has filled the South-East of this Grand Chapter since its organization, in 1855, has deceased. In his death, Masonry, as well as the Grand Bodies of Canada, has lost a bright and shining light, who has gone up higher.

We concur.

Under the head of District of Columbia, he gets off the following good one:—

Some of the quill drivers have, it seems, dropped the Latin quotation and taken to the French, whereat one good companion says: "We should like to know if Latin is a *sine qua non* to the accomplishment of a member of the Mutual Admiration Society, with "*currente calamo*." If it is, then we can give "*quantum libit*" of that, but will "*valeat quantum valere potest*" this time. Isn't that consoling! We are reminded of an incident which occurred at one of our annual elections. An illiterate brother, whose candidate for a good office had been defeated, addressing an educated brother who had supported the rival candidate, with the remark, "Isn't it a shame that so educated a brother should have been defeated by such an ignorant brother," when in fact the successful brother was a Master of Arts, a fine classical scholar, a graduate of one of the best colleges in America—but he did not quote Latin, while the unsuccessful candidate had never darkened the door of a college unless as a visitor, but was always interleaving his addresses with extracts from the "Dictionary of Quotations."

We judge from the following that Comp. PARVIN's Masonic experience has not been altogether lovely. In his review of Florida he says:—

Such is the picture of Masonry, beautifully and most eloquently word-painted by Grand High Priest DAWKINS. My dear brother, is this the reality in your land of flowers, or have you drawn upon the imagination for the inspiration of hope? We never met the good brother that he did not, in his huge frame and large heart, look as if he spoke from the standpoint of truth as he has it, and we would all love to have it. But, alas! our experience of Masons and Masonry falls infinitely short of this. We never had an enemy (and we have many and bitter ones) who was not a Mason; we were never slandered and betrayed but by those who wear the Mason's garb; and were it not that our warmest, truest, and best friends are Masons too, we could, like the old man of old, curse Masonry and die. We have lived a life of many years and served others all our life, that they might grow rich and we poor. We never yet sought an office, but have had them piled upon us like Ossian upon Olympus, only to have the jealous stab us behind. Still, for the sake of the cause, we shall love our enemies and do good to those who spitefully use us, so far as we may be able to subdue our passions, and so improve ourselves in the royal art.

Let us hope that such experiences may be few.

The report is redolent of good things, and we regret that for want of time and space we must pause in its consideration.

Comp. PARVIN retires from the Committee on Correspondence, and we refuse to be comforted.

There are sixty-seven chartered Chapters, and eight under dispensation borne upon the registry, and the aggregate membership is 3587, showing a net increase during the year of 291. Four hundred and seventy were exalted during the year.

The *Right Bower* is again *trumps*, and Comp. WILLIAM B. LANGRIDGE again *assists* as Grand Secretary. Address: Muscatine.

KANSAS.

The Grand Chapter of Kansas held its tenth Annual Convocation in the city of Leavenworth on the twentieth day of October, 1874,—the *M. E.* JOHN M. PRICE, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* E. T. CARR being Grand Secretary. Five of the seventeen Grand Officers were present at the opening, the remaining twelve positions being filled temporarily. This lack of attendance on the part of the Grand Officers Comp. CARR explains by informing us that the hour of meeting of the Grand Chapter is ten o'clock, A. M., while the railroad trains, having no regard for the By-Laws, do not arrive until twelve o'clock M.; consequently many of the Grand Officers do not arrive in season to take part in the opening ceremonies. Eighteen subordinate Chapters were represented and representatives from ten sister jurisdictions were reported present.

From the Address of the Grand High Priest, we infer that our companions of Kansas are suffering a fair share of prosperity. About the only trouble they appear particularly to enjoy is grasshoppers, and although, according to the address, some of the Chapters have manifested much indifference and apathy, that imputation cannot justly be laid to the charge of the hoppers, who have shown a degree of zeal and industry in their peculiar line which is truly wonderful.

Of the progress of Royal Arch Masonry in Kansas, the Grand High Priest says :—

The history of this Grand Chapter, from its organization in 1866, shows a rapid and healthful growth. Within less than nine years we have increased from three to twenty-five chartered Chapters, with an aggregate membership of over one thousand. With the exception of the first one, it has been my good fortune to attend every Annual Convocation of this Grand Body from its organization to the present time. It is my heart's desire that I may be permitted to meet and mingle with you on many subsequent annual re-unions.

He calls attention to the fact that many eminent companions have, during the year, closed their earthly labors and entered within the walls of the Celestial Tabernacle, and pays a fraternal tribute to the memory, not only of those who were his immediate companions, but to those shining lights which death has extinguished in other jurisdictions ; among them he mentions BRADFORD, of Maine, BORNIE, THAYER, and BURNS, of South Carolina, MITCHELL, of Missouri, SWASEY, of Louisiana, AUSTIN, of Texas, and HARRIS, of Canada ; all names familiar to Masons as household words, and of whom he beautifully says :—

As the sandal tree emits its sweetest fragrance just at the moment of its descent upon the ax that felled it, so the life of a good man shines purer and brighter just as his earthly tenement is dissolved and he enters that Temple, "not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

Four new Chapters were constituted during the year, and all are reported as doing well.

One dispensation only was granted for the formation of a new Chapter.

Eight decisions upon points of Masonic law were rendered, but as we concur in them all, and they accord with the law and practice in this jurisdiction, we deem it inexpedient to occupy our space by quoting them.

The Deputy Grand High Priest and Grand King reported that they had performed no official act, and therefore had only general peace and harmony to report. Comp. JOHN H. BROWN, Grand Lecturer, submitted his report, in which he says the work is now uniform throughout the jurisdiction, and asks permission to "step down and out," which wasn't granted, and JOHN BROWN still "goes marching on" through Kansas, in the flesh—as far as he can get for grasshoppers—teaching the work of Masonry to those who require his instructions.

The Committee on Grievances reported nothing to do,

The following resolution was adopted, and we would like to see a similar one adopted in this jurisdiction :—

Resolved, That hereafter no Royal Arch Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter shall exalt any candidate to the degree of Royal Arch Mason until he shall have selected his mark, and caused the same to be properly recorded in the Lodge Book of Marks.

We think the Grand Chapter acted wisely in adopting the following amendments to the Standing Regulations :—

Resolved, That the Standing Regulation of 1869, page 625, be so amended as to read as follows :—

Resolved, That whenever a Chapter is convened in Regular or Special Convocation, it must be open in the Royal Arch Degree, and if work is to be done in an inferior Degree, the Royal Arch Chapter must be called from labor to refreshment, a Lodge opened in the Degree to be conferred, after which the Lodge must be closed, the Chapter called to labor and closed in the Royal Arch Degree on the same day.

Also *Resolved*, That the second Standing Regulation of 1870, be so amended as to read as follows viz. :—

Resolved, That a petition for the Capitular Degrees, or for membership, must be presented at a Regular Convocation, and must not be ballotted on the same evening it is presented ; and no candidate shall be advanced until his proficiency in the preceding Degrees has been established by examination in open Chapter, or vouched for by one of the three principal officers, provided this shall not be so construed as to prevent the conferring of two Degrees the same evening.

The Grand Treasurer reports a balance of \$774 70 in the Treasury, which was ordered to be invested in United States Bonds.

Comp. E. T. CARR, Grand Secretary, again presents an excellent report on Correspondence. He reviews in an able and interesting manner the transactions of thirty-seven Grand Chapters; among the number California for 1874 receives fraternal notice. He quotes approvingly from the Address of Comp. DAVIES on the subject of physical qualifications, and does us the honor to compliment us on our report, for which we tender our thanks.

In referring to our remarks relative to the recognition of the Grand Chapter of West Virginia, he says:—

Upon this subject we may be practically wrong, but in theory we hold we are correct, and shall take occasion to explain our position before closing this report.

And in explanation he quotes the following from the Address of the General Grand High Priest, Comp. DRUMMOND, delivered at the opening of the General Grand Chapter at Nashville, November 24th, 1874:—

In this connection I am reminded that a Grand Chapter has been formed in West Virginia, and that doubts have been expressed whether Grand Chapters in allegiance to the Gen. Grand Chapter can consistently recognize and establish fraternal relations with it. Were the question a new one, the decision undoubtedly would be that we could not recognize it. It was formed by Chapters chartered by the Grand Chapter of Virginia, in territory over which that Grand Chapter has claimed and exercised exclusive jurisdiction for more than sixty years, and the General Grand Chapter has acquiesced in that claim. Our Constitution expressly recognizes the propriety of having a Grand Chapter in each State; and, to my mind, it is too late now, after so long an acquiescence in the claim of Virginia, to deny the logical result of such action. I recommend that the Grand Chapter of West Virginia be fraternally invited to follow the example of Maryland and Florida, and unite with her sisters in common allegiance to this General Grand Chapter.

In relation to which he says:—

The attention of the members of the Grand Chapter of Kansas is respectfully called to the foregoing, that they may prepare to rescind. Had the Grand Chapter adopted the resolution to postpone action until after the meeting of the General Grand Chapter, there would have been no necessity to "crawlsh."

There are twenty-six subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction, with an aggregate membership of 912.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were wisely re-elected. Address: Leavenworth.

KENTUCKY.

The fifty-ninth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky, was held in the city of Louisville, commencing on the nineteenth day of October, 1874, the *M. E.* DAVID P. ROBB, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* JOHN M. S. McCORKLE being Grand Secretary. Eighty chartered Chapters, and two under dispensation were represented at the opening.

The Grand High Priest, in his address, congratulates the Craft upon the general prosperity prevailing throughout the jurisdiction. He announces in feeling terms, the death of Comp. WM. C. MUNGER, Deputy Grand High Priest, who departed this life on the fifth day of February, 1874, aged fifty-two years. Comp. MUNGER was a faithful and zealous worker in the Masonic vineyard, and, although we had not the pleasure of his personal acquaintance, we knew him by his writings, and appreciated his worth. He was Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery of Kentucky, and chairman of its Committee on Correspondence. His death was sudden and unexpected, and fell upon the companions like a thunderbolt from a clear sky.

Comp. H. A. M. HENDERSON, chairman of the committee to whom was referred that portion of the Grand High Priest's Address relative to his death, says:—

The announcement of his death fell upon the heart of a grieved community, a large and widely distributed circle of friends, and a loving brotherhood, like the sudden, deep tolling of a funeral bell upon a festive group. He looked the very incarnation of health. His step was elastic, his cheek flushed with the glow of warm blood, and his spirits were overflowing with cheerfulness. Had we long been

admonished by signs of failing health, we had been better prepared to receive the shock, but the shattering stroke fell like an invisible and noiseless thunderbolt, and we knew not it was launched, until we, with tearful eyes, beheld the desolation it had wrought. Such an unheralded event admonishes us all to be ready, since we know not the day, even the hour, when the pale messenger, with soundless tread, may come to summon any one of us to the pulseless solitude and dreary repose of the grave. We have reason to believe that the remorseless stroke fell upon one well prepared to receive it. His business probity, his stainless private character, his personal virtues, his lofty faith—all lead us to confidently say that there was a torch-light of comforting hope to illumine the otherwise dark valley of the shadow of death.

We deeply sympathize with our companions of Kentucky in the sad loss they have sustained, and confidently hope that "their loss may be his eternal gain."

Two dispensations were granted for the formation of new Chapters, and the charters of two Chapters were arrested for being in a "disorganized condition."

The Grand High Priest says it was impossible for him to visit many of the subordinate Chapters, but from information received, he reports them as reasonably prosperous and exhibiting a healthy growth.

A large portion of his Address is devoted to the "Masonic Widow's and Orphans' Home." A noble charity, and one of which the Order may well feel proud.

Of it he says:—

This Home is not only this day the pride and glory of Kentucky Masonry, but of the Craft of America. Yet it is but in its infancy, and needs your fostering care. We understand from its Directors that some fifty thousand dollars is needed to fully complete the building in all its parts, in accordance with the original plan and design. Besides this, a large endowment fund is needed to pay the current expenses of the Home, and to place it beyond any contingency of want. This, my companions, we are able to do. Go look upon the Home and see its happy inmates—then let us do what we can as a Grand Chapter, and individually, and upon your return home make known to your companions the institution, its workings, its designs, and its wants. We understand from the Directors that they failed to realize their expectations from the last St. John's Day festivals, and whilst we would not advise the discontinuance of St. John's Day festivals, or December 27th, or any other days, in this interest, we feel that just now something more is needed.

The Grand Treasurer's report shows the total assets of the Grand Chapter to be \$11,076 40, and of this the sum of \$7000 was contributed to the funds of the Home. This is charity indeed; how much more in accordance with the true spirit of Masonry is it to invest money for such an object, than to squander it in gaudy jewels and profitless festivals?

We shall watch with deep interest the progress of this noble enterprise, and pray for its abundant success.

The following resolution shows a disposition to move in the right direction:—

Your Committee on Work have carefully considered the important subject entrusted to them, and, after mature deliberation thereon, and in view of the variety of work now used in this jurisdiction, and of the fact that the Royal Arch Masons of Kentucky have renewed their allegiance to the General Grand Chapter of the United States, recommend the adoption of the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter of Kentucky adopt the work of the General Grand Chapter, now in use by all the Grand Chapters, subject to that Grand Body, and that the Grand High Priest is hereby authorized to appoint a committee of one to attend the General Grand Chapter, at its next regular session, to be held at Nashville, Tenn., on Tuesday, November 24th, 1874, whose duty it shall be, to secure the work complete, and present it at the next meeting of this Grand Chapter.

A companion presented the following questions, which were referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence:—

A companion Royal Arch Mason, in good standing, pays his dues and asks for a dimit.

1st. Is he not entitled to a dimit of right?

2d. Is not a by-law requiring a ballot as to whether a dimit shall be granted or not, in contravention of the ancient usages of Masonry?

3d. What is the status of a companion who has been refused a dimit by such a ballot, and who has been suspended for non-payment of dues?

The committee in their report, dodge the more important questions ; they answer the first, but are silent as to the second and third. Their report is as follows :—

The Committee on Jurisprudence report, after considering the questions presented by Comp. Brevard, to wit:—

1st. “Is not a companion who is in good standing and has paid his dues, entitled to a dimit?”—that there is no law to prevent a companion who is clear of the books of his Chapter, and who is in good standing, from dimitting, unless he is an officer of such Chapter.

To the second question we would answer, no. Charges of unmasonic conduct may be pending against a companion, and he should not be allowed to withdraw until they are heard and determined. In most jurisdictions a dimit and recommendatory certificate are combined, and cases are frequent where a Chapter would cheerfully consent to the withdrawal of a member, but would on no account recommend him to the Fraternity at large.

To the third question we would answer that the companion stands simply as a suspended Royal Arch Mason, and his remedy is in appeal to the Grand Chapter.

The Report on Correspondence is again presented by Comp. H. A. M. HENDERSON, and although not so lengthy as some of its predecessors, is worthy of his pen. He reviews the transactions of twenty-two Grand Chapters, among them California for 1874. He says of us:—

The Grand Chapter of California has a choir, and the sessions are not only opened with prayer but with music. We commend the custom and think it would be well for our Grand Chapter to appoint a committee on music, a year in advance, to elect a quartette choir and to select and have printed odes to be used at the next annual session. Let this choir be paid mileage and *per diem*. We take this occasion to present some views upon music in Lodges and Chapters.

He makes this the basis of a most eloquent and beautiful dissertation upon music, and we would gladly reprint it, but, as it occupies six pages of the proceedings, we cannot spare the space. We however extract the following and regret that we have no room for more:—

Masonry is the patron of the science and art of music. In the Fellow Craft degree, among the seven liberal arts and sciences to which Masonry is said to be devoted, is that of *Music*. Provision is made throughout all our degree work for the introduction of music. Nothing adds more to the impressiveness of our ceremonies than good singing accompanied with an instrument. In most of our Lodges in the cities and large towns the organ, or melodeon has a place, and the practice should become universal. A good melodeon can be purchased at about \$100 and in almost every Lodge some one might be found to play, or who would learn to perform on it. Where practicable we should not object to the formation of a Masonic choir, who, in the absence of work to engage the attention of the Craftsmen, should regale them with sweet sound, and odes illustrative of the principles of our Order, of which there are many of rare beauty, and which have already been set or adapted to music. In this way many a dull evening would be beguiled, and the Craft have both pleasure and profit. Nothing is more refining than music. In all ages it has had power over the minds and morals of men. In all lands it has been accredited as of celestial origin. When the earth was finished the morning stars sang together for joy. The Greeks ascribed the lyre to Hermes. According to Diodorus, at the marriage of Cadmus with Harmonia there was a grand concert of the gods ; Mercury brought his lyre, Apollo a similar instrument, and Minerva and the muses their flutes.

There are one hundred and eight Chapters, having an aggregate membership of 3358.

The *M. E.* JOSEPH P. FOREE was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* JOHN M. S. McCORKLE was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address : Louisville.

LOUISIANA.

The twenty-seventh Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Louisiana was held in the city of New Orleans, commencing on the tenth day of February 1874, the *M. E.* JOSEPH P. HORNER, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* JAMES C. BATCHELOR, M. D., being Grand Secretary. Twenty-one chartered Chapters and one under dispensation were represented at the opening.

Comp. HORNER prefaces an able address by the following gloomy picture of affairs in Louisiana:—

Since we parted last year, though we were then living in a state of great pecuniary embarrassment, and of political turmoil and uncertainty, which mainly contributed to produce it, we have seen even more troublous times: the evils which then seemed to be confined to our own section of country, and almost entirely to our own state, so far as financial matters were concerned, have since spread like a great tidal wave over the whole country, and all the people have had trials and misfortunes, which it would be in vain to attempt to picture or describe; calamity of every kind has sought all classes, and an untold amount of suffering has been endured; from this state of affairs we are not yet finally rescued, and the still unsettled condition of our political matters, disturbing as it does all classes of industry and enterprise, compels us to fear that the end is not yet, and that further troubles are in store for us. But throughout all the distress that has and still surrounds us, the mission of Masonry has gone ever onward; peace and fraternal love reign throughout our Chapters, and a noble disposition to help each other has manifested itself among our companions to quite as great an extent as any former emergency ever called forth, and at this moment our institution is undepressed by any of its mournful surroundings, and shines forth with a brightness of character all its own. For this great mercy, companions, let us give our heartfelt thanks to the Great Grand High Priest "who doeth all things well" and humbly acknowledge His manifold kindness to us and to our works, and gladly render to Him "all the power and the glory forever and ever, Amen!"

He announces the death of Comp. HENRY RUFUS SWASEY, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter, and pays a glowing tribute to his memory. He reports that he has "issued no dispensations to waive any of the delays or formalities relative to the election or reception of candidates," for which he deserves credit. He announces the appointment of Comp. SAMUEL M. TODD, Past Grand High Priest, as Grand Treasurer, in place of Comp. HENRY RUFUS SWASEY, deceased.

One dispensation was granted for the formation of a new Chapter.

We note the following decisions:—

1st. Following the action of our Grand Lodge at its last Annual Communication, I decided that all provisions in the By-Laws of a subordinate Chapter, declaring members in arrears of dues, ineligible to office, and debarring such from voting upon any subject, to be illegal and unmasonic.

2d. That Sec. 15 of Art. VII of the Constitution of this Grand Chapter, which provides, "that in all cases of trials, the regulations of the Grand Lodge shall govern," means that we, as Royal Arch Masons, shall be governed by the regulations of the Grand Lodge, not only as to all trials, but as to all incidents of such trials, both precedent and subsequent, including the preferring of charges, the punishment, and the remission of the punishment; that a Royal Arch Mason, expelled by his Chapter, can only be restored by the Grand Chapter, upon the recommendation of the Chapter which pronounced sentence, which recommendation must be adopted by the same vote which was required to pass the sentence of expulsion.

3d. That the Grand High Priest is not required to officially answer all questions of Masonic Law which may be propounded to him by any companion, and that it would be improper for him to do so. That official decisions should only be given upon actual cases as they arise, and when officially requested by formal action of a subordinate Chapter by resolution, or by the High Priest thereof, or at his direction. This decision was elicited by a communication addressed to me by a Secretary of a subordinate Chapter, under seal, but manifestly without authority, which contained more than a dozen questions on points of Masonic law of the most primary character, and which I declined to answer officially.

4th. To the question: "Is it in the power of a Chapter to forgive a companion, who being entrusted with funds of the Chapter, to pay over to the Grand Chapter, embezzled them and put them to his own use, lied about them, and concealed himself by refusing to answer letters and surrender papers, and who now contritely acknowledges his crime and pleads for mercy?" I replied that it was certainly within the power of a chartered Chapter to do so, and for the members of a Chapter under dispensation, to refrain from preferring charges against such a companion, but that such a course would require strict discipline, and I would, without hesitation, revoke the dispensation or arrest the charter of any Chapter so acting.

He recommends that hereafter no candidate be exalted until he shall have selected and recorded his Mark. An excellent suggestion, and the Grand Chapter adopted it.

The Committee on Masonic Law and Jurisprudence, to whom were referred the above decisions of the Grand High Priest, very properly, in our opinion, dissented from the views expressed in decision number one, and reported as follows, in which report we concur :—

His first decision. Decision 1st. Our opinion is that each Chapter is the judge of the qualifications of its members to entitle them to vote or hold office, until some edict of the Grand Chapter has restricted that power, necessarily inherent in the subordinate until surrendered to the Grand Chapter by some provision in the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, and we must disapprove of the action of the *M. : E. :* Grand High Priest.

Comp. J. Q. A. FELLOWS dissenting, the report of the majority of the Committee was adopted by a vote of fifty-four to sixteen.

Decisions two and three were approved, and with reference to number four, the Committee say :—

We are of opinion that a Chapter may forgive a companion who has been guilty of unmasonic conduct : but it can only be done with the consent of all the members, as any one of them has the unquestionable right of preferring charges against him.

Again we agree with the committee. "To err is human ; to forgive, divine"—and so thought the Grand Chapter, for the report was adopted.

We are led to the conclusion that the members of the Grand Chapter were well satisfied with their officers, as every one of them, from Grand High Priest to Grand Guard, was re-elected or re-appointed. The Grand High Priest was unanimously requested to continue to serve as chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, to which he graciously assented, much to our gratification.

Iowa appointed Comp. HORNER, and Connecticut Comp. FELLOWS, as their representatives near the Grand Chapter of Louisiana, and they were received and accredited in that capacity.

The Report on Correspondence is again from the genial pen of Comp. HORNER, who loses none of his elasticity as a reporter from the weight of dignity which presses upon him as Grand High Priest. He courteously reviews the transactions of thirty-two Grand Chapters, California for 1873 receiving brief but fraternal notice.

Under the head of Iowa, he quotes the remarks of the reporter, relative to our inquiries respecting the written work, which, he says, meets with his "hearty disapprobation."—And ours.

We fear when he wrote the report on California, he had been reading Comp. CARPENTH's lecture on temperance, as he mixes our name up in a most surprising fashion. He calls us LOUIS CHARLES WIGGIN. How would he like to be designated as POTTS JOSEPH HORNER ?

Chapters, twenty-eight. Membership, 1528.

MAINE.

The Grand Chapter of Maine held its forth-ninth Annual Convocation in the city of Portland, commencing on the fifth day of May, 1874,—the *M. : E. :* HORACE H. BURLBANK, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. : E. :* IRA BERRY being Grand Secretary. Thirty-four out of the thirty-six Chapters were represented, and eight Past Grand High Priests graced the opening ceremonies with their presence.

The Grand High Priest delivered an able address, in which his official acts are clearly set forth, and some wholesome suggestions are made. He announces the death of Comp. FREEMAN BRADFORD, Past Grand High Priest, whose portrait ornaments the title page of the pamphlet ; Comp. JOHN H. LYNDE, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, and Comp. OLIVER B. DORRANCE, Past Grand Scribe, and pays fitting tributes to their memory. Of the state of the Order he says :—

Since our last Convocation, harmony, peace, and an average prosperity have well nigh universally prevailed in this jurisdiction. Accessions to our numbers have indeed been less numerous than in years ago ; yet fire, famine, and fever have been comparative strangers within our borders. These scourges have visited some

of our sister Grand Chapters, and the loud calls for aid have met with noble and generous response.

In the following we most heartily concur. Pass it around :—

As I have done in my visits, companions, so here would I repeat a criticism of too general application. The beautiful and impressive ceremonies of the Royal Arch are often marred by the introduction of levity and mirth utterly inconsistent, to my mind, with the sublime history and principles of capitular Masonry. The lessons intended by the "living arch" and the "weary sojourn" are often reduced from the "sublime" to the "ridiculous," and "exaltation" becomes a misnomer for "degradation." Such performances are not only unmasonic, but uncomely (I had almost said *uncouth*) in companions and towards candidates. They are far beneath rational amusement. Overseers! reject all such unseemly stones. Clear away such "rubbish" from your temples, ye who love the true and the beautiful. Such precedents are wanting in our early annals, and should receive no countenance to-day. Due reflection on the part of members, and official firmness in High Priests, will, I trust, remove this blemish from our work.

He reported the following decisions :—

1. A member of a Chapter, in good standing, is entitled to all his privileges, and bound by all his obligations as a R. A. M., although not an affiliated M. M.
2. A Chapter of R. A. M's, as such, may participate in memorial services, performed by the Lodge at the grave of a companion, at his request, even though he had been previously buried at a time when "extremely bad traveling" forbade such services. These rites being purely Masonic, this does not conflict with a former ruling (which I hold to be correct,) that a Chapter should not join in the ceremonies of the decoration of soldiers' graves.
3. The installation of a re-elected H. P. must precede that of his subordinates.

In this jurisdiction, decision number 1 would not hold good, as a Royal Arch Mason cannot be in good standing if he remains for more than six months unaffiliated with some Lodge, or contributes thereto a sum equivalent to its monthly dues.

With reference to these decisions he very pertinently remarks: "A better knowledge of our law, and especially of former rulings, would have spared the Chapters, in most instances, the necessity of submitting questions for decision."

He suggests the adoption of a regulation which has long been in force in this jurisdiction, viz. :

That the name of no companion shall be inserted in any charter hereafter issued unless his dismission from other membership be first filed with the Grand Secretary.

In speaking of differences arising among Chapters he very truly says :—

Occasionally, these differences arising in Chapters evince a desire for *victory*, rather than *peace* or *right*, which invariably tends to mischief. The exercise of more masonic charity in *non-essentials*, would prevent such evils.

The following are golden words; let all read and lay them to heart :—

You who wear the robes of office and are custodians of the work in your several Chapters, yea, *all* companions within hail of this Grand Chapter, let us individually remember that "good work," inside our veils, and *good works* in our outward walk, are alike incumbent on us. Let *intemperance* and *profanity* be *unseen* and *unheard* among Royal Arch Masons, and may our deeds and dealings comport with our professions.

The reports of the Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, and Grand Scribe, show an average degree of zeal and prosperity among the subordinates; but there is still room for improvement.

The Grand Treasurer reports the amount in the Charity Fund to be \$3900 51, and the income from the same (annual we presume) to be applied to charitable purposes \$396 48.

We give the following report of the Grand Secretary as an evidence of the growth of the Order in the "Pine Tree State" :—

In presenting my twentieth annual report as your Secretary, I cannot but be reminded of the rapid growth of Royal Arch Masonry in this State during the last twenty years.

In 1854, when I was first elected to this position, there were but eight Chapters in the State, with an aggregate membership of four hundred. There are now thirty-six chartered Chapters, and one under dispensation, thirty-five of which return 3562 members: so that the number of Chapters is more than four times as many as twenty years ago, with an average of about a hundred members to a Chapter, instead of fifty as it was then.

My duties as Secretary the past year have been in the ordinary routine of business, and have been attended to as promptly as I was able. I submit the records for examination, and tender my heartfelt thanks to the Grand Chapter for the confidence and kindness shown me during my long term of service.

Respectfully submitted,

IRA BERRY, *Grand Secretary.*

In the words of the immortal—somebody—"Long may he wave," to record the proceedings of the Grand Bodies he has so long and so faithfully served.

Comp. DRUMMOND, for the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, submitted the following report, which was accepted, and in which we concur:—

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to which were referred at the last Annual Convocation the decisions of the Grand High Priest, ask leave to report:—

The first decision cannot be sustained in the general terms in which it is stated, though it is correct in the case in which it was given.

In the absence of the High Priest, his powers and duties devolve upon the King, and he becomes High Priest for the time being, with the same prerogatives as an actual High Priest. We find that no distinction is made between the powers, etc., of an *installed* High Priest, and those of an *acting* High Priest, for the time being. It follows, therefore, that when the King or Scribe is properly acting as High Priest, he may call a special meeting of the Chapter.

The circumstances and duration of temporary absence are so variable that no definite rule can be given. A High Priest may be gone on a voyage at sea for the greater part of his term, without removing *permanently* from the jurisdiction; under the decision no special meeting could be called during his absence: on the other hand, if the High Priest should be absent for two days, it would certainly be an invasion of his prerogative for the officer next in rank to call a special meeting to perform the ordinary business of the Chapter; and yet a sudden emergency might arise in which it would be necessary to have a special meeting, during a *very short* absence of the High Priest, which the next officer must necessarily call. From these considerations, it is evident that the *absence* of the High Priest *gives the power* to the King, (and the absence of both to the Scribe,) the exercise of which would be proper in some cases and improper in other cases. In such cases the officer must exercise the power in good faith, *at his discretion*, subject to his accountability for any abuse of it to the governing body.

The only rule that can be given is:

No *special* meeting of a Chapter can be called by any other officer than the High Priest, save in his absence; when he is absent the next officer (of the Council) in rank has the power to call special meetings, whenever, in his judgment, the emergency demands it; but he is accountable for any improper exercise of the power.

The Committee on Grievances in this jurisdiction, is a purely ornamental institution.

The Report on Correspondence is again from the pen of Comp. STEPHEN J. YOUNG, and is an interesting and well prepared paper. He reviews the transactions of thirty-two Grand Chapters, but California for some reason is unnoticed. We are at a loss to account for this, as three copies of our proceedings were promptly mailed to the Grand Secretary. We trust our worthy companion will not *bury* our proceedings in the archives of the Grand Chapter, but give the Committee on Correspondence an opportunity to tell his companions what he thinks of us.

Comp. YOUNG writes an excellent report, and he will excuse us for saying that, while *under the circumstances*, we cannot regret his retirement from the reportorial ranks, we are sorry that we shall hear from him no more. It is not that we love YOUNG less, but DRUMMOND more; and while we bid the former a kindly farewell, we welcome the latter with open arms to our family circle once more.

We consider Comp. YOUNG to be exceedingly lucky to be able to "stand from under" after getting off the following under the head of District of Columbia. Hear him:—

The report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Comp. E. B. MACGROTT, who reviews twenty-five pamphlets, including ours. Comp. M. quotes liberally and approvingly from our last report, but differs with us on the question of the Tetragrammaton. He says:—

“Right here we wish to call Comp. Young's attention, and the attention of all those who wish to look at a *few more* authorities upon that important question, to an article in the ‘National Freemason,’ published at Washington, D. C., and edited by Comp. A. G. MACKAY, from the pen of Comp. ALBERT PIKE, entitled, ‘The Holy Triad: a reply to the Grand Chaplain and Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts,’ which will probably cause Comp. Young to doubt the *correctness of his own reasoning* on the important subject in question; and also to think that he has commented upon the subject *without proper deliberation*, and without that amount of research which its importance demands, and in *order to treat it intelligently*. We hope Comp. Young will give the learned and talented author of that article the credit of having thoroughly and completely exhausted the subject, so far as authorities are concerned. Usage and custom are an entirely different light to look upon the question in.”

Commenting upon the above, Comp. YOUNG gets his gun off as follows:—

We have read the article referred to, and we acknowledge the learning and ability therein displayed, but we are not yet convinced of the correctness of Comp. PIKE's reasoning. Solomon sent to Tyre, the metropolis of Baalistic religion; procured a workman who had gained his reputation in building the temples of “Melkarth, Baal of Tyre,” and of Ashtaroth; gave him orders to make the cherubim, which were a mere union of a man's head with the old nature-symbols of Assyria and Egypt; and last, but not least, commanded him to set up the two brazen pillars, which were well-known emblems of the old Baalistic worship, as their names abundantly prove.

Dr. Emanuel Deutsch, one of the most learned men of this century, and a most devout Jew, speaks as follows:—

“Pantheism, in the Greek sense, is utterly unknown to the Shemites. Nature is nothing but that which has been begotten, and is ruled absolutely by the one Great Absolute Power. And only in the more or less abstract conception of this power are found what differences there do exist in the Semitic creeds in their respective stages. There is but one name for this Being: Baal, El, Elohim, Allah, Elyon, Astarte-Tanis—meaning one and all of them, Might, Almighty, Omnipotent, the Divine Judge—while Jehovah denotes the mercy which revokes and tears up the dread decree before it is carried into execution.” (*Lit. Rem. of Dr. Deutsch, page 160.*)

The “wise king” evidently knew no great distinction between the various religions of his day, for he adopted any symbols which pleased him, without any apparent squeamishness as to their source. He saw no antagonism between Bel and El. During all this time Solomon was receiving aid from the very king who had invested the worship of Melkarth with a splendor before unknown and built in his capital the most magnificent Baalistic temple of antiquity. Solomon was a wise man, but he was not so well informed as Comp. PIKE, because Solomon evidently had no suspicion that Baal of Tyre was the devil.

“Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the children of the east country and all the wisdom of Egypt,” says the Old Testament, but it carefully omits Arkansas!

Under the head of Maryland he quotes the following from the able Report on Correspondence, by HERMON L. EMMONS, Jr.:—

“In the case we suggested, it would seem unjust that the member restored in his Lodge should be obliged to undergo the ordeal of the ballot in order to be remitted to his rights as a Royal Arch Mason. And it is even questionable, in such a case, whether a ballot would be necessary in the absence of an express regulation to the contrary, to restore him to membership in his Chapter. Of course it would be otherwise if he had transgressed a regulation of his Chapter, and had been expelled after trial.”

We do not admit this conclusion, and we beg leave to ask a question: A man is convicted of adultery and sent to the penitentiary, whereupon his wife obtains a divorce, basing her complaint upon the verdict of the jury. It is subsequently discovered that the evidence was false, and the man is consequently pardoned and restored to his civil rights. Does his restoration to society, *ipso facto*, confer upon him his marital rights?

With all due respect to Comp. Young, we must differ from him upon this question. Even with one of Corson's most powerful microscopes we can discover no analogy between the cases cited. A man's marital rights are not made contingent upon his prospective good behavior; his Masonic rights are. The Lodge is the

foundation of all Masonry ; take away the *foundation* and the *superstructure* of necessity falls ; restore the former, and the latter may again be raised by the hands which removed it.

We learn from Comp. YOUNG that he has visited the city of "Brotherly Love," but found a scarcity of that commodity in the market. He wanted to see the new temple, and was graciously accorded permission to take a walk around the block. Under the head of Pennsylvania, he says:—

The Grand Bodies of that State are literally *exclusive*, for they *excluded* us from the temple, in spite of all reasonable requests on our part, and informed us that even an order from the Grand Master would not procure us admittance. The officials in charge, however, kindly permitted us to walk around it—*on the outside*. If we were Grand Master of Pennsylvania, we would either get our powers extended, or else exchange places with the ill-mannered man who sat in the Grand Secretary's office on that occasion.

Will Comp. THOMSON rise to explain?

Comp. YOUNG thus concludes his excellent report:—

We have thus reviewed the proceedings which have been placed in our hands, not without the feeling that we were passing over many excellent things in the various reports, but our space and time are both limited. With this review we take our leave of the corps of reporters ; and before making our final bow, we wish to thank them all for the kind words with which they received us, when, as a raw recruit, we made our first appearance in the ranks. We have enjoyed the labor ; but other more pressing duties have obliged us to renounce it from henceforth, and a better man has consented, not so much to take our place, as to resume his own.

Number of subordinate Chapters, thirty-six ; number of Royal Arch Masons, 3562.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were both re-elected. Address: Portland.

MARYLAND.

The Grand Chapter of Maryland held its Annual Convocation in the city of Baltimore, commencing on the ninth day of November, 1874,—the *M. E.* JAMES W. BOWERS, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* WILLIAM A. WENTZ being Grand Secretary. Ten chartered Chapters were represented at the opening.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is a brief but comprehensive paper. He reports that nothing of an unpleasant nature has marred the harmony of his official term, and consequently he had not been called upon to administer discipline or reprimand. As is almost invariably the case, his address contains a touching allusion to a beloved companion who has finished his life-work, and gone to his reward. Comp. CHARLES GOODWIN, Past Grand King of the Grand Chapter, is the subject of his notice, and a fitting tribute is paid to his memory.

One feature of his report is so rarely discovered in the addresses of Grand High Priests, that we feel called upon to draw especial attention to it. It is as follows:—

Accompanied by one or more of the Grand Officers, I have visited, officially, each of the subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction during the year, and it gives me pleasure to bear testimony to the cordial manner we, as your representatives, have been received ; our advice and instruction have been listened to with attention and the companions have expressed their gratification at the presence of the Grand Officers, it being an assurance to them, that the Grand Chapter has a lively interest in the welfare of her subordinates.

If the Grand High Priests in general could be brought to a realizing sense of the importance of such visits, we should hear less of bickering and strife, less of apathy and surrendering of Charters.

We have no hesitation in endorsing the following:—

In reading the addresses of Grand High Priests, and the reports of judiciary committees of other Grand Chapters, I have found so large a number of legal decisions that it appeared as though the companions were much more interested in the law, than in the moral teachings of our beautiful ritual, which inculcates charity, brotherly love, friendship, union, fervency and zeal, and purity of life and conduct.

I am not an advocate of a multiplicity of laws, having endeavored during my Masonic life to reduce the laws governing my intercourse with my brethren and companions to a very simple code, "whatever is right and just is Masonic—whatever is wrong and unjust is unmasonic." Applying this code to my actions for a fourth of a century, I have avoided any unpleasant difficulty with brethren or companions, claiming from that charity towards my failings, that I am willing to grant to theirs, if unfortunately they have any, and in accordance with these views I have no legislation to suggest.

No better code than the above can be devised; let conscience be the judge; and governed by such a law the true Mason need never materially err.

The following resolution was adopted:—

Resolved, by this Grand Chapter, that no High Priest elect shall be installed unless he is competent to confer the traditional work of all the degrees conferred in a Chapter of R. A. Masons.

We think the tinkerers of the Constitution must be hard up for material when they propose such an amendment (?) as the following, which, much to our surprise, was adopted:—

No Chapter shall elect for its High Priest, any other than a King, Past King, Scribe, Past Scribe, or Past High Priest, unless the Chapter, by death, removal or other cause, shall have no member so qualified.

We believe in selecting for that high and responsible position the man best qualified to fill it, whether he be King or Past King, Scribe or Past Scribe, or simple member. Of all the pernicious doctrines which have crept into Masonry, "rotation in office" is the most damaging. We have seen many a pudding-head placed in high official position, which he was no more qualified to fill, than a donkey to write a disquisition upon the working tools, simply because by some unfortunate accident he chanced to be elected to a subordinate place, and it was feared his *feelings* would be wounded if he were dropped. We say, if the Tyler is the man best qualified to fill the Oriental Chair, place him in it, and throw among the rubbish the careless, ignorant and inefficient, who are only a dead weight upon the Chapter, notwithstanding the fact that they may be invested with high-sounding titles.

Comp. HERMON L. EMMONS, Jr., as usual, presents the Report on Correspondence, which is characterized by his usual ability. Thirty-six Grand Chapters pass under review and the transactions of each are closely inspected and commented upon. California, for 1874, receives kindly notice. He quotes our remarks on Temperance and says he read them to his "better half," who was graciously pleased to remark: "She thought Mr. WIGGIN a nice man and wondered why every Mason didn't do just as he advised, for then there might be some reason to hope for one's husband's return from the Chapter meetings by midnight." While thanking the lady for her good opinion, we assure her that it coincides with that long entertained by the ladies of this jurisdiction.

He answers Comp. YOUNG, of Maine, upon the question of restoration, &c., after suspension or expulsion by the Lodge, in the following manner, which meets our views, and we concur:—

Royal Arch Masonry claims as its foundation the Blue Lodge, and therefore very properly inflicts without question or trial the penalty meted out by the Symbolic Lodge upon an alleged offender. If the Blue Lodge is satisfied that justice would be done by restoring the brother to his former status, and does so, the Chapter can do no less, consistent with justice, than to promptly remit the companion to his rights without the ordeal of the ballot-box. But in the case suggested by Comp. YOUNG, the law cannot anticipate that a man convicted of the crime referred to might be proven innocent, and therefore, does not make a divorce conditional, or provide that in case innocence was proved after divorce granted, the divorce should be thenceforth a nullity, for years, or even death might intervene before the wrong was righted, and of what value would the divorce be to the woman if she could not marry in the meantime?

Don't you see, Comp. YOUNG, the cases are not parallel? there is a *woman* in the way in your case, and that's what's the matter.

There are fourteen subordinate Chapters; aggregate membership 1276.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were re-elected. Address: Baltimore.

MASSACHUSETTS.

The Grand Chapter of the State of Massachusetts pleads guilty to nine Convocations during the year 1873, viz. : five special and three quarterly, besides the Annual Convocation. The Special Convocations were held for the constitution of new Chapters, and at the quarterly Convocations, only business of local interest was transacted.

The Annual Convocation was held in the city of Boston on the ninth day of December, 1873,—the *M. E.* ALFRED F. CHAPMAN, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* Z. H. THOMAS being Grand Secretary.

The morning session was devoted to the exemplification of the work in the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master, after which the Grand Chapter was called from labor to refreshment, and the companions repaired to the Banqueting Hall, where recuperative material was abundantly supplied.

The subsequent proceedings we give in the words of the Grand Secretary :—

In the afternoon the Royal Arch Degree was fully exemplified ; the whole being in the presence of the largest annual assemblage of R. A. Masons ever held in this jurisdiction, and who gave close attention to its progress and details. Much credit is due to the several companions who exemplified the work for the skillful and correct manner in which it was rendered, and at the close they were highly complimented by the M. E. Grand High Priest.

At 5 o'clock P. M. the Grand Chapter of Instruction was closed.

At the evening session, a form of burial service was presented and adopted. The service is very beautiful and impressive, but not more so than that which has long been used by the Symbolic Lodges.

We are opposed, on general principles, to any other Masonic funeral service than that used at the burial of a Master Mason. All others are innovations, which until within the last fifteen or twenty years were never heard of. All the old Masonic works, English and American, provide no place in a funeral procession for any but Master Masons ; while on occasions of festivity, such as laying of corner-stones, etc., all Masonic grades are assigned their respective positions.

Death places all upon the same level ; he respects neither rank nor wealth ; high-sounding titles with him avail nothing ; he places the Sovereign Inspector General, the Knight Templar and the Royal Arch side by side with the Master Mason, and together they mingle with their " kindred dust."

If a brother is to be buried as a Knight Templar, or as a Royal Arch Mason, Master Masons would, of course, be debarred from participating, as such, in the funeral ceremony ; while if the funeral is conducted under the auspices of the Lodge, all grades may participate, for all are Master Masons.

If we recollect rightly, the first attempt at innovation in this direction was made by the Grand Commandery of New York, who adopted a burial service to be used at the funeral of a Knight Templar, which was afterwards adopted by the Grand Encampment of the United States, and its use enjoined upon the Commanderies when one of their members is to be buried as a *Knight Templar*.

There may be a shadow of an excuse in this case, as Knights Templar are supposed to be Christians, and a brother might desire to have his remains receive Christian burial ; but even this might be, and often is, accomplished without the intervention of a separate Masonic Ceremony, by uniting the services of the church with those of the Lodge, or by holding the church service first and the Masonic afterwards.

We can see no possible excuse for a separate ceremony for the Royal Arch, except a morbid desire to exhibit to the world our pretty scarlet clothes, and publish the fact that we are *Royal Arch* Masons.

The Grand High Priest delivered (as usual) an excellent Address, in which we find the following cheering words :—

Notwithstanding the general depression in business, the year past has been the most prosperous of any in the history of this Grand Chapter, eight hundred and over having been exalted during the time.

He thus notices the pilgrimage of *Lafayette* Chapter, of Washington, D. C., through the Canadas :—

During the month of August last, an event occurred, which is perhaps unprecedented in the annals of Royal Arch Masonry. *Lafayette* Chapter, of Washington, D. C., performed a tour through the Canadas, where they received marked and brilliant attentions, formed new friendships, and I doubt not cemented the ties of brotherly love and affection which unite us together as brethren, be we of "whatever country, sect, or opinion." The route projected, brought them to Boston, on their return, and being apprised that *King Cyrus* Chapter, of Newburyport, proposed to honor *Lafayette* Chapter by inviting it to an entertainment, in their sanctum, and to honor itself, in addition, by co-operating with Comp. BEN PERLEY POORE, who hospitably entertained the companions of both Chapters at Indian Hill Farm, I deemed it becoming in me, to see that some attention was paid to the visiting Chapter while briefly sojourning in Boston, and was much gratified to find companions ready and willing to share the burdens thereunto belonging.

The visitors came at a season of the year, over which all bodies in Boston had adjourned, but I am sure that they and those who met them will long remember the time and the occasion with mutual delight.

We have no doubt the companions had a good time and that the members of *Lafayette* Chapter thoroughly enjoyed their visit. We hope none of them sang that *Ode*. It was bad enough to perpetrate *that* upon foreigners, but to try it on their own countrymen would have been too bad.

We can imagine, for instance, a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons from our sister jurisdiction of Canada, on a visit to the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, and after that grave and dignified Body had been opened in Ample Form, the visitors rising and gravely asking permission to sing a song ; and such a song !

If a man so enthuses and the muses abuses as the composer does, is it not an evidence that the climax of absurdity has been reached ?

We said we could *imagine* our Canadian companions doing such a thing. We beg their pardon ; we cannot imagine them in any such ridiculous position ; but we will *suppose* such a thing to occur ; no, confound it ! it isn't a supposable case—we give it up : let Comp. DADMUN figure it out.

The Masonic Temple at Philadelphia receives the following notice :—

In September last the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania dedicated to Masonic purposes the grandest and most complete Masonic Temple in the world, it being four times and eleven-sixteenths larger than our own Temple on the ground plan.

If our companions of Pennsylvania could only have known this in time, we are sure they would have added those other *five-sixteenths*, so as to have made it five times as large. This would have given "that ill-mannered man," who, on one occasion, sat in the Grand Secretary's office, more room for the exercise of his social qualities, and would have afforded Comp. YOUNG, of Maine, a better opportunity to exercise his pedal extremities in walking around it, "*on the outside*."

The report of the Finance Committee shows a balance in the treasury of \$2560 74, and the total assets of the Grand Chapter amount to \$8060 74.

That "genial reporter," Comp. JOHN W. DADMUN, again presents us with an excellent Report on Correspondence, albeit he apologizes for its quality, owing to the brief period of time he was able to bestow upon it. He says he was limited to a few days in its preparation, yet he has given us a report of seventy-five pages, containing an able and critical review of the transactions of twenty-seven Grand Chapters. California, for 1873, receives kindly notice at his hands. He says the Address of Comp. NEFF was a good and practical one. One of his decisions however was too much for Comp. DADMUN's idea of vested rights ; we refer to the one which removed a High Priest from his office because he was not a member of any Lodge.

Of this Comp. DADMUN says :—

The Committee on the address fully sustained this action of the Grand High Priest, and the Grand Chapter concurred.

We presume this High Priest was a member of the Chapter over which he presided, and, if so, why should he be deposed for the want of membership in a Blue

Lodge? If the Grand Constitution in California makes membership in a Blue Lodge an absolute prerequisite to holding office in a Chapter, then the action is according to their law, but *on no other ground* can the grave act of deposing this officer be sustained for a moment.

We have been taught from our infancy in Masonry that every step we take in the institution must be "of our own free will and accord."

Now suppose a brother should prefer the Chapter or Commandery to the Blue Lodge, and should pay all his dues in the last named body and take his dimit, is there any thing dishonorable in it? Has he violated any obligation that properly belongs to Masonry? We think it would be better for every brother to belong to some Lodge, but we do *not* believe that Masonry is an iron bedstead on which we must be *stretched* if too short, or *cut off* if too long.

After examining a little farther he ascertains what the law is, and expresses his astonishment that the doctrine should be tolerated, that a Royal Arch Mason should be suspended from all the rights and privileges of the Order without trial, for the non-payment of his dues.

We have written so much upon this subject that we are well nigh tired of it. The Grand Lodge of California has decreed the non-payment of dues to be a Masonic misdemeanor, and the penalty prescribed therefor is suspension. The law in such cases made and provided is as follows:—

SEC. 11. No Lodge shall expel a member for the non-payment of his dues; but, in case any member shall have refused or neglected to pay his regular dues during a period of six months, he shall be notified by the Secretary that, unless at the next stated meeting either his dues be paid or sickness or inability to pay be shown as the cause of such refusal or neglect, he will be suspended from all the rights and privileges of Masonry. If neither of these things be done he shall, at such stated meeting, be declared by the Master to be so suspended, unless, for special reason shown, the Lodge shall remit his dues or grant him further time for their payment; but any Mason thus suspended, who shall at any time pay the arrearages due at the time of his suspension, together with such further dues as would, had he retained his membership, have accrued against him to the date of such payment, or who shall have had such arrearages and dues remitted by his Lodge, shall by either of these acts be restored.

The law makes no distinction between suspension for non-payment of dues and suspension for any other cause; and we would ask Comp. DADMUN if, knowing a companion to be suspended from all the rights and privileges of Masonry by his Lodge, he could consistently hold Masonic intercourse with him in the Chapter?

This will explain why the Grand High Priest declared the High Priest of *Temple* Chapter ineligible, and will also account for the conduct of the High Priest aforesaid, who chose rather to comply with the law, than lay down the insignia of his office, and, having complied, he was promptly re-elected, and has made a zealous and faithful officer. The Lodge is the foundation upon which the Chapter is erected. It is there where all the *real work* of Masonry is accomplished; it is there where the charities of the Order are dispensed, the needy and distressed relieved, the sick ministered unto, and the dead buried.

The work of the Lodge requires time, money and personal service, and we have no respect for the Mason who leaves his brethren to bear the "heat and burden of the day," and, quietly esconcing himself beneath the shadows of the Royal Arch, coolly says to the faithful worker, "stand back, for I am holier than thou."

We don't believe in encouraging drones in the Masonic hive, but say unto all such, either fish or cut bait.

We had occasion last year to call attention to the custom which obtains in Massachusetts, of transacting the business of the Chapter in any of the degrees in which they may be at work.

Comp. Lockwood, of Connecticut, agreed with us, that the regular business should only be transacted in a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. Comp. DADMUN is open to conviction, for he says:—

We will now say that we personally agree with Comps. Lockwood and WIGGIN, but the practice of this jurisdiction has always been to the contrary.

With reference to the practice of making Masons at sight, he says:—

We, too, would like "more light" on this subject. Will some of the advocates of the "sight" business volunteer to give us the law, or even the "tradition" touching this subject?

He thus compliments (?) Comp. MILES, of Illinois:—

Massachusetts receives a very fraternal notice. Comp. MILES has a glorious faculty of giving a clear and well-arranged synopsis of Grand Chapter Proceedings. He has a terrible aversion to expressing,—at least in his reports,—any opinions of his own. Perhaps we should say, he will sometimes give an opinion, but he will not give any reasons for it. For example: in speaking of the address of Comp. JOHN P. LITTLE, at the formation of the Grand Chapter of West Virginia, he says: He advises the Grand Chapter not to become members of the General Grand Chapter, *in which we think he errs.*" Amen. So do we.

There is one thing certain, and that is, Comp. MILES is always courteous and impartial—he *never slops over.*

We do wish some of these non-committal companions *would* slop over once in a while; it would be such a pleasure to clean up after them.

Under the head of Kansas, he thus speaks of the use of substitutes:—

Two facts Comp. CARR must admit. The first is, that a large majority of the Grand Chapters believe that the use of substitutes is not a violation of the obligation of a Royal Arch Mason, and therefore allow their use. The other is, that the General Grand Chapter has declared "that the use of substitutes is *not a violation of the Ritual of Royal Arch Masonry, or the Installation Charges delivered to a High Priest.*"

Again, if all who are exalted with substitutes are *illegally* exalted, how can Comp. CARR fellowship them as Royal Arch Masons? Must they not be *healed* before they can be legally recognized? "Facts are stubborn things."

Personally, we should prefer to have the wording of the ritual changed so that there could be no apparent conflict. In Massachusetts we have no law on the subject, because the use of substitutes has the degrees out of time should never be given except in cases of extreme necessity.

We give Comp. DADMUN's closing remarks, which meet our views exactly, and then we must regretfully leave him, for we have much yet to do:—

In conclusion we should like to say a few things in regard to the Reports on Correspondence, if our companions will not think us egotistical. A very few seem to think they are getting to be too voluminous, and consequently expensive; others say give us full reports.

We believe they may be made popular, if we only take the medium ground. This can be done by making short, pithy extracts and comments, except in special cases where all will readily see the propriety of an extended notice. We do not think extracts should be made merely for the sake of having it said, "he quoted largely" from this or that report or address. Long extracts are seldom read.

By all means do not give us a mere skeleton, but clothe it with sinews and arteries, and send the life-blood coursing through its veins, so that it will speak and sparkle like a thing of life. A skeleton is only fit to be buried, unless you want to set it up in a museum as a matter of curiosity.

Number of Chapters, sixty-four; aggregate membership, 8268.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were both re-elected. Address: Boston.

MINNESOTA.

The Grand Chapter of Minnesota held its thirteenth Annual Convocation in the city of St. Paul on the twenty-fifth day of June, 1874,—the M.: E.: JAMES N. CASTLE, Grand High Priest, presiding, the R.: E.: E. D. B. PORTER being Grand Secretary. Twenty-one subordinate Chapters were represented.

From an excellent Address by the Grand High Priest we learn that the Order in Minnesota is in a highly prosperous and flourishing condition. He says:—

While the year that is past has been marked by disasters on flood and field, and by pestilence, and suffering and want, in some of our sister jurisdictions, by financial embarrassments, permeating largely all the material interests and industries of our country, we have occasion for deep and lasting gratitude that this jurisdiction has escaped almost untouched—that "our lines have fallen in pleasant places."

While the progress of the Order has been marked by its usual activity, so far as I am advised it has been uniformly harmonious. No irregularities in subordinate Chapters have been reported, and no occasion presented for exemplary discipline.

Eight dispensations to form new Chapters were granted during the year.

Under the head of "suggestions," the Grand High Priest discourses in the following sensible strain :—

There is a growing tendency in the Masonic world to captious criticism and unprofitable disputation. This should never be tolerated. Too much law is a bane to any society—an absolute curse to an institution such as ours. Wrangling over questions of a merely technical character, besides being wholly unprofitable, is necessarily subversive of that harmony that should ever reign in our councils, and without which our institution, ancient, memorable, and beneficent as it is, will in the end result in an inglorious failure. Save when the same may involve some question of immemorial custom, that had its origin in the ancient practices and usages of the Order, there is but little in capitular or symbolic Masonry that calls for the application of technical rules or subtle distinctions. In the ordinary duties of Masonic bodies, few questions arise that cannot readily be determined by a careful examination of the Constitutions, By-Laws, and decisions of our own jurisdiction. The practice of permitting the application of technical rules to the exclusion of substantial justice cannot be too strongly condemned. It has no part or lot in the institution of Freemasonry. One of the most eminent jurists of the world has recorded that a disputed question, determined by the application of common-sense and the obvious teachings of equity and good conscience, would be found to conform to the well established principles of law.

He recommends that the Chapters be districted and that each district be assigned to one of the four principal officers, whose duty it shall be to visit each Chapter in his district at least once a year, and report its condition to the Grand High Priest. An excellent suggestion, and so thought the Grand Chapter, for a resolution to that effect was adopted.

From the following report by the Committee on Jurisprudence, we most emphatically dissent :—

Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence would report that they have considered so much of the address of the *M. E.* Grand High Priest as relates to Masonic usage, and judge that his decision, "that a companion may belong to a regular or chartered Chapter, and to a Chapter U. D.," is correct. We believe that a companion can at one time belong to all Chapters to whose membership he has been formerly regularly elected.

We also agree with the *M. E.* Grand High Priest that it is necessary to prefer charges regularly against delinquents for non-payment of dues before they can be stricken from the rolls or suspended. The whole matter of dues in Masonry is a modern innovation. The old rule was, "once a Mason always a Mason," and we are of the opinion that the utmost care and discretion should be exercised by Chapters ere they deprive companions of the privileges of the order for an infringement of their By-Laws requiring annual dues. We are also of the opinion that it is best to leave the matter of the time which shall elapse before a petition for the degrees can for the second time be presented to a Chapter to the Chapter receiving the petition, and would not advise the adoption of any rule by this Grand Body regulating this matter.

That portion of the report relative to membership in Chapters anywhere and everywhere was adopted ; the latter portion relative to non-payment of dues was not. There is saving grace in that Grand Chapter yet. Our objection to the portion of the report adopted is, that it is liable to give rise to unpleasant complications.

No man can consistently hold two or more allegiances. We remember an instance in the early history of Masonry in California, before the present Constitution was adopted which forbids dual membership, of a Mason who was Master of a Lodge in this jurisdiction, and during his term of office it was discovered that he had been expelled several years before by a Lodge in an eastern State, from which he had never dimitted.

It is due to the party expelled, to say that he did not know of his expulsion, but, had he not held membership in two Lodges, we should not have been called upon to record the anomaly of an expelled Mason presiding as Master of a regular Lodge.

The Committee on Grievances presented the following unique report :—

Your Committee on Grievances take pleasure in reporting that, although every one is "in a sweat," all is cool. No matters have been referred to the committee for adjustment.

The Grand Secretary explains in a foot-note that the mercury was trying to stand at about 100° in the shade.

They do some funny things in Minnesota, as witness the following :—

Comp. MERRELL was proceeding to install the remaining Grand Officers, when Comp. PIERSON objected to the installation of Comp. COMBS as Deputy Grand High Priest, on the ground that he was ineligible.

The protest of Comp. PIERSON was ordered to be spread upon the record. The Grand High Priest then installed Comp. COMBS and all the other Grand Officers, except Comp. WEBB, Grand Chaplain, and Comp. BRONSON, Grand Captain of the Host, who were not present.

The following is Comp. PIERSON's protest:—

"To the M.: E.: G. R. A. C. of Minnesota :—

"The undersigned, Past Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter, believing that it a well established law of Masonry that an elective officer must be a member of the body in which he is elected to office, respectfully presents to this body his objection to the installation of Comp. W. S. COMBS as Deputy Grand High Priest, for the reasons:—

1st. He has never been constitutionally a member of this body ; and

2d. He has never been either High Priest, King, or Scribe of a subordinate Chapter.

The undersigned disclaims all personal feeling in the matter, but puts his objection solely upon what he believes to be the establishing of a precedent fraught with danger to Royal Arch Masonry ; and further gives notice that the subject matter shall be presented to the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America.

Fraternally,

A. T. C. PIERSON, P. G. H. P.

We believe the point of order to be well taken. We do not know what action, if any, the General Grand Chapter took upon the matter, but we believe Comp. PIERSON to be clearly right in his view of the case.

We come now to the Report on Correspondence, and in looking over to see who wrote it, we hesitate and rub our spectacles, to make sure that our visual organs have not "gone back on us." No, it is a reality ! our eyes do not deceive us. Here is that "old foggy" PIERSON at the front again. Well, who would have thought it, after the row he raised last year?

Looking back to the Address of the Grand High Priest, we find under the head of "charters granted," the following:—

For reasons that were highly creditable to himself, Comp. E. D. B. PORTER, on the——day of————last, tendered his resignation as chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and recommended the appointment of Comp. A. T. C. PIERSON in his stead. I accepted his resignation, and made the appointment recommended. The large Masonic experience and undoubted ability and integrity of the companion appointed is a sufficient guarantee that the very important and onerous duties of that position have been well performed.

We are not surprised that Comp. PORTER should have done something "highly creditable to himself," but what has become of the "ring?"

We presume that Comp. PIERSON, having worked a sufficient time under (afflicting) dispensation, has now obtained a charter, and will become a permanent institution. Well, for our part, we do not hesitate to say we are right glad of it. We like Comp. PIERSON, because he has opinions of his own, and does not hesitate to express them. We cannot always agree with him, but we invariably read his reports from beginning to end, and feel that the time has been profitably spent.

Comp. PIERSON will excuse us for calling him an "old foggy ;" as he adopted the name himself, and denounced us as ditto, he can find no fault on this score. He reviews the transactions of thirty-three Grand Chapters, many of them for two years, in an able and interesting manner, noting everything of general interest and freely commenting upon such portions as met his disapproval. California, for 1873,

receives courteous notice. He notices the action of our Grand High Priest in removing a High Priest from office, as follows :—

He reports having declared the office of High Priest vacant, because the incumbent was an unaffiliated Master Mason. The Grand Chapter sustained his action. All right, *provided* the Grand Constitution requires that officers of Chapters should be contributing members of a Lodge ; but if the Constitution is silent on the matter, then we hold the decision wrong.

We can assure Comp. PIERSON that the action of our Grand High Priest was strictly in accordance with the law.

Of our report of 1873, he speaks in complimentary terms, and says further :—

We have marked several paragraphs in this report which would not only please us to present to our Grand Chapter, but would gratify our companions, but we have only one copy, and that we want to preserve for future reference.

We have only one copy of the proceedings of Minnesota, but we are not going to be debarred from appropriating the good things we find there on that account, but will slash away right and left and trust to luck for another copy.

Under the head of Florida, Comp. PIERSON gives us his views on the Temperance question, as follows :—

“ Expressions of Grand High Priests,” “ actions of Most Excellent Grand Chapters,” or “ Reports on Correspondence ” can not change laws made before either had an existence.

In neither the “ Ancient Charges ” or “ O. B.’s ” is there a word prescribing what business a Mason may or may not pursue ; he is to conform to and obey the laws of the land.

It is not fair to stigmatize one as an “ apologist ” for the “ rumseller ” who claims that whether a Mason is a wholesale merchant, druggist, hotel, saloon, or restaurant keeper, Masonry has nothing to do. And we hold further that Masons as such have no right to denounce their brethren who may be so unfortunate as to be engaged in a business in which the sale of rum forms a part or the whole.

If we had the power, not a drop of fermented liquors of any kind should be manufactured. We believe that the whole category of fermented liquors are poisonous to the human system and deleterious when given as a medicine ; that even the occasional use is sowing the seed of disease which will and must grow fruit.

While Masonry makes no discrimination, yet we, in the exercise of our individual rights, would.

We are a convert to the “ touch not, taste not, handle not ” persuasion, and wish that all mankind, but more particularly the brethren, were with us ; but all that is outside of Masonry.

We believe that so far as Masonry is concerned it is just as much a violation of its teachings to indulge *at all* as it is to go further ; the common drunkard is but a little in advance of the “ obliviousness ” found at convivial assemblages, and he to the “ mellowness ” obtained at the club, or social gathering at the hotel, and he to the occasional drinker who imbibes only when meeting with long-absent friends. So far as the old law of Masonry goes, it makes no grades ; it inculcates temperance for three assigned reasons, and there stops. It does not preach teetotalism, nor yet does it encourage drinking, whatever individuals may do.

We believe that this lugging in temperance lectures into Masonic addresses, reports, resolutions, etc., is all wrong ; leave the whole subject just where the fathers left it ; but as individuals each has the right to “ pitch in ”—but then let the practice conform, remembering that the social drinker is only a little behind the poor imbecile drunkard.

We are not sure but we are liable to the same criticism that we have dealt out to others ; but we can’t help it ; we want to see the whole liquor traffic abolished—making, selling, or drinking. But we are opposed to “ new departures ” in Masonry ; we are opposed to saddling the job on the Masonic Fraternity as such.

We have always labored under the impression that one of the cardinal objects of Masonry was to improve the morals, and to inculcate temperance, fortitude, prudence, and justice ; and, holding these views, we believe Masonry has something to do with the temporal business in which her votaries are engaged. No one will have the hardihood to deny that the indulgence in intoxicating drinks is the prime cause of a majority of all the sorrow, suffering, indigence, and crime that curses humanity at the present day ; and shall we, as members of an Order founded upon the great principles of morality and brotherly love, sit supinely by and see our brethren, day

by day, go down to destruction under the malign influence of rum, and say that, with him who dispenses the poison, "Masonry has nothing to do?" The gambler and the brothel keeper, should they apply at our portals for admission, must not be denied, for with their *business* Masonry has nothing to do, so long as the laws of the land are not infringed. Is there no moral law by which Masons are bound?

A Mason who does not possess the first of the cardinal virtues, temperance, can have but little fortitude, less prudence, and does justice neither to himself or the Order. We think that the "lugging in of temperance lectures into Masonic addresses, reports, resolutions, etc.," is *all right*, and will have a beneficial effect in helping to crush out the practice of indulging in strong drink, all too prevalent among Masons.

Under the head of Louisiana, Comp. PIERSON gets off some of his old foggy notions, in which we fully concur. He says:—

We believe in old customs, old usages, and the laws; even if we dislike the law, we feel bound to be governed by it until changed. For instance, we believe that to be eligible to office in a Masonic Body, the brother or companion must be a member of the body.

Again, we believe that one should have been High Priest of a subordinate Chapter to render him eligible to the office of Grand High Priest.

Again, we believe that a proxy must be—in accordance with the law of the General Grand Chapter—a member of the Chapter which he represents; and we do not believe that it is in accordance with Masonic usage, and therefore it is illegal, after one has been recognized as a proxy in violation of the law, to elect him to position in the Grand Council, and one who had never held office in the Council of a subordinate Chapter.

He wants the opinions of the reportorial corps upon the following propositions:—

1st. Is a Royal Arch Mason, not a member of the Grand Body and who has never held office in a subordinate Council, eligible to office in the Grand Council?

2d. Are any but Past or Present High Priests eligible to the office of Grand High Priest?

3d. If, during installation, when the proclamation is made "that if any have objections, &c., present them now," written objections claiming a violation of custom, usage, law, are made, what is the duty of the installing officer?

4th. If the objections are unheeded, ignored, should the objector tamely submit, pass it all over; or appeal to the companions generally for their opinion, to the end that the weight of opinions would sustain or crush the objector?

We give our opinion for what it is worth. To the first proposition we answer, No. To the second, ditto. To the third, our opinion is, that the installing officer should heed the objection unless he deems it absolutely frivolous, and postpone the installation of the officer objected to, until the merits of the case could be heard and determined.

Relative to the fourth proposition, we would say, in the elegant language of the fisherman to his apprentice: "Toot your horn, if you don't sell a clam."

Under the head of Missouri, he says:—

In the proceedings we find twenty-one pages of what purports to be a Report on Foreign Correspondence; but there is no "GOULEY" about it but the signature—"Hold on!" there is a little sentence in the commencement that sounds natural—here is a "condensed report, how do you like it?"

We much prefer GOULEY's reports, albeit he often omits Minnesota, as in this instance. He evidently is meeting with some of our experiences. We wager that next year he will make a report. Neither Missouri or the rest of mankind can afford "condensed reports" from GOULEY.

As we predicted last year, our companions of Missouri didn't want any more *condensed* in theirs, and this year GOULEY expands to his normal proportions.

We give Comp. PIERSON's closing remarks, which have the ring of true metal, and leave him, with our best wishes for his welfare and prosperity:—

It was our intention on commencing this report to remark somewhat upon our "conclusion" of last year. The "second sober thought" comes in and says, let "bygones be bygones"; again, "the least said is soonest mended." Our companions at home understand the matter, and that is all that is at present required. The

culmination will be at the General Grand Chapter ; with their action we propose to be content.

And finally, companions, we congratulate you on the fact that peace and harmony reign in all the jurisdictions. The only ripple is in our own. Grievance Committees have had nothing to do, and General Chapters little else than routine business to transact. The questions that are engaging the attention of the reporters are being discussed so courteously and fraternally that promises, if unanimity is not reached, no unpleasantness will be engendered.

There are thirty chartered Chapters in this jurisdiction, having an aggregate membership of 1471.

The *M. E.* SILAS R. MERRILL was elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* E. D. B. PORTER was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address : St. Paul.

MISSOURI.

The Grand Chapter of Missouri held its Annual Convocation in the city of Saint Louis on the eighth day of October, 1874,—the *M. E.* XENOPHON RYLAND, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* GEORGE FRANK GOULEY being Grand Secretary.

We are a little mixed as to the number of this Convocation. On the cover it appears as the twenty-eighth, while upon the title-page, and also upon page three, it is called the thirty-eighth. We presume however that twenty-eight is the correct number, and that either Comp. GOULEY or the printer has got ten years ahead of time. Fifty chartered Chapters were represented at the opening.

The Grand High Priest delivered an excellent Address, in which he says :—

There is no disturbing element in our jurisdiction. Yet there is danger in the fact that we do not all entertain proper conceptions of the duties that rest upon us as Masons. It is an elevating acquirement to possess a knowledge of our beautiful Ritual, and to be able properly to impart that knowledge to others ; but he only is the true Mason, and fully understands his mission here, who is influenced by the truths and principles inculcated by the Institution of Masonry in his daily walk through life. This is an individual work. No one can represent us in the drama of life. Each has his work to do, and he only meets the obligation resting upon him that devotes all the energies of his soul to the task.

Four decisions were rendered, which we deem of general interest to the Craft, and we therefore give them in full. In our opinion they are all characterized by good sound common sense, and are in accordance with Masonic law and usage, except number two, from which we must dissent. Had the brother received no degree, the case would have presented a different aspect ; but having taking the Mark Master's degree we hold that he has acquired certain Masonic rights which cannot be abrogated by a simple objection, without cause assigned. Were it otherwise, great injustice might easily be done to a worthy brother through the personal pique or malice of some one individual. Having been duly elected and received one degree, the Chapter is in honor bound to give him the remainder, unless for good cause shown he shall be found unworthy to receive them.

Under the decision in question, any member of the Chapter, to gratify a personal spite, might hold a worthy brother in abeyance for a lifetime without assigning any cause for his objection, thus placing the applicant in a worse position than if he had been black-balled in the first instance ; for then, after the expiration of a certain period, he would have the privilege of trying again ; whereas, in the present instance, there is no hope for him until the objection or the objector is removed.

We think the practice in this jurisdiction to be a far more just and equitable one. An objection made to an applicant for the degrees, after being elected, but before any degree has been conferred, has the same effect as a black-ball, and the objector is not required to give his reasons for the objection ; but after a degree has been conferred upon him, and objection be made to his advancement, such objection must be referred to a committee, with power to inquire into the cause thereof, who shall, at the next stated meeting, (unless further time be given) report thereon ; and upon the reception of their report, if no cause for the objection has been assigned, or if

the cause assigned be, in the opinion of two-thirds of the members present, not a valid and Masonic one, the Chapter may confer the degree in the same manner as if no objection had been made. Following are the decisions:—

I.—During the year it became necessary for me to decide whether or not it was necessary for a companion to have served as King or Scribe, before he could be eligible to the office of High Priest. Our law is silent on this subject. Yet, from my best information, no such pre-requisite has ever been required in this jurisdiction. I did not see any necessity for it, and believing that a contrary ruling to the prevalent custom would have created trouble and confusion in the Chapters, many of them having already elected and installed their officers, I decided the question in the negative.

WHAT IS A VALID OBJECTION?

II.—A was duly elected to receive all the degrees of the Chapter, and was advanced to the degree of Mark Master. A member of the Chapter, without any reasons therefor, made a verbal objection to the High Priest against A's further advancement. This was not done in open Chapter, nor is the objection, with name of objector, a matter of record. The objection thus made was entertained by the High Priest, and the advancement of A prevented.

An appeal being made from this action, I decided that an objection to advancement must be made in open Chapter by the objector, if present, or by some companion authorized to act for him, and in his name, if absent. The fact of objection, with the name of the objector, must be duly recorded in the minutes to be valid. The objection may be made verbally or in writing, but the objector can not be compelled to give his reasons therefor. Harmony is the strength and beauty of our institution, and to require anything further to be done in such cases will be but sowing seed of discord among companions. That this right may be abused, is not the fault of our principles, but the neglect of them. In this case I directed the High Priest to notify the objector of this decision, and that unless he, after due notice, made his objection a matter of record in accordance therewith, his objection should be treated as a nullity and the candidate allowed to proceed. If properly made, the objection to remain in force so long as the objector refuses to withdraw it and remains a member of the Chapter.

III.—Nine Regular Royal Arch Masons constitute a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. A Chapter cannot be regularly opened or closed unless there be present at least nine Royal Arch Masons. The Chapter cannot remain open for the transaction of any business unless there be present nine Royal Arch Masons, five of whom must be members of the Chapter to constitute a quorum for business.

IV.—R. W. CRAWFORD was a member of *Springfield* Chapter, No. 15, at the time its charter was surrendered during the war. Not having obtained a dimit, as provided by law, when the Chapter was restored he was still a member of said Chapter. But in this case, the members of said Chapter were required to enroll themselves as such before they were regarded as members. Comp. CRAWFORD requested to be enrolled as a member, but never after paid any dues. He was tried by the Chapter on the charge of disobeying summons, was acquitted of the charge, and on appeal to this Grand Body in 1873 the action of the Chapter was declared null and void. No further trial was had in the case, for want of notice to the companion.

Comp. CRAWFORD denied that he ever authorized his name to be enrolled as a member of the Chapter after the restoration of the charter, and prior to his decease had been a non-affiliated Master Mason for six or eight years. He openly and publicly renounced his allegiance to and denounced the institution of Masonry. In February last he was taken sick at Neosho, in this State, and until his death was cared for by *Tyrian* Chapter, and buried with Masonic honors. *Tyrian* Chapter had noticed sufficient to be put on inquiry as to the relations sustained to the Order by the deceased, and without any notice to or authority from *Springfield* Chapter, when such notice might have been given in an hour's time, incurs a debt of some one hundred dollars, and presents the bill to *Springfield* Chapter for payment. And on the refusal of said Chapter to pay the bill, the question was referred to me.

There is no such thing as Chapter burial. As a non-affiliated Mason, Comp. CRAWFORD had forfeited all claims upon our Order for its benefits. Having renounced and denounced Masonry, he had no claim to Masonic charity. Destitute and in want, it was noble in the members of *Tyrian* Chapter to befriend him. I am opposed to the principle which will permit one Masonic Body to constitute itself the financial agent of another without any authority or consent, especially when such authority may be obtained in a very short time if circumstances warrant it. If it becomes a settled principle that no Chapter ought to exercise its charity without the right to demand remuneration therefor, Masonic charity will be as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal. Under the circumstances surrounding this case, I decided that *Tyrian* Chapter had no legal demand against *Springfield* Chapter for the expenses incurred by it in behalf of Comp. CRAWFORD.

Comp. RYLAND says "there is no such thing as Chapter burial." What will our companions of Massachusetts say to that? He evidently does not believe it judicious to exercise all the powers with which a Grand High Priest may be endowed, as witness the following, which meets our fullest approbation:—

Numerous applications were made to me for permission to confer degrees on candidates who had not resided under the jurisdiction of the Chapters for at least one year. The authority to grant this permission is found in section 11, page 13, of the Constitution. The exercise of this power might jeopardise the peace and harmony existing between this and other jurisdictions, and be fraught with evil to Masonry itself. One year's residence is short enough. I denied the application, and believe so much of said section as refers to this power ought to be repealed.

The Committee on Grievances report one case of appeal from the action of a Chapter suspending a member for the period of ten years. Action sustained. In this jurisdiction we have no definite suspensions.

The demise of two venerable fathers in Masonry is announced and feeling tributes paid to their memory, viz.: Past Grand High Priest JAMES W. S. MITCHELL, aged about seventy-three years. He was the first Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Missouri, and for nearly half a century, says the Grand High Priest, his life and energies were devoted to the cause of Masonry. Past Grand High Priest JOHN D. DAGGETT, aged eighty years, and who for nineteen years occupied the responsible position of Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter. From the mourning page dedicated to his memory, we learn that "at the time of his death he was the last survivor of the Convention which formed the Grand Lodge of Missouri—his death broke the last link which bound the Masonic present with the dead past."

The Report on Correspondence is again presented by the Grand Secretary, Comp. GEORGE FRANK GOULEY, and we are pleased to find that GOULEY is himself again. It was a huge hoax he perpetrated on the Grand Chapter last year in the presentation of his "condensed report," and we feel sure the condensing process will not again be brought into requisition. Thirty-five Grand Chapters pass in review, and three bring up the rear, too late for inspection. California, for 1874, receives courteous notice. He quotes our resolution requiring High Priests elect to procure a certificate from the Grand Lecturer, or somebody else, that he is competent to discharge his duties before he can be installed, and says of it:—

These are "pretty tight papers," and we think the Grand Lecturer will have to be almost omnipresent, or else the Chapters will have to resort to the re-election of those who have heretofore "passed muster."

We are inclined to agree with Comp. GOULEY, that the "papers are rather tight," and the sooner we get rid of that regulation the better. Comp. GOULEY is strong on the question of "sub-heads." We should like to oblige him, but we do not like to spoil the beauty of our typography by the introduction of ugly sub-heads, which look like big stone heaps on a shaven lawn; besides, it is against the law in California to *put a head on anything that is endowed with life*.

In his review of Virginia, he extracts from the Report on Correspondence the following:—

Under the head of California, he takes the following view relative to dimitts from defunct Chapters:—

We observe that the Grand Chapter, by *resolution*, *remitted* the dues of three several companions, former members of now extinct subordinates, and restoring them, by the same *resolve*, to all the rights and benefits of the Order—in one instance ordered a dimit to be issued. Does not the demise of a Chapter, except it be in debt, remit all dues? From what will the dimit from the Grand Chapter dimit the applicant? Will it be from membership to the Grand Chapter? If not, can it be from the extinct subordinate? We have always regarded a dimit as evidence, *prima facie*, that the companion was in good standing, and clear on the Treasurer's book at the period of its issuance, to relieve any other Chapter of which he may subsequently become a member, from the assumption of any dues to his former Chapter. Will the remission by the Grand Chapter have that effect? Has the Grand Chapter, in fine, the power to interpose with the family arrangements of a subordinate, even

though that subordinate be Masonically dead? The Grand Chapter can, under certain well known regulations, issue a diploma, which, in our jurisdiction, is taken as *collateral* evidence. It appears to us, the next nearest, geographically, subordinate Chapter to the residence of the party would have jurisdiction over him and that body, and not the Grand Chapter, the proper tribunal to restore rights and grant dimits.

This Comp. GOULEY answers so fully and pertinentiy, that we give his own words, being satisfied that we could not do it better ourself. The *form* is substantially the same as that used in this jurisdiction :—

We are rather inclined to think that our good companion has got this thing a little mixed. Let us see.

In the first place, Chapters are chartered by a Grand Chapter, and when they cease to exist, their charters, seals, books, accounts and property revert back to the Grand Body as a matter of right, it being the only heir and custodian of the same. It is its duty to collect up all arrearages, etc., and to pay off legitimate bills, and to certify to the Masonic character and standing of the late members, in order that they may affiliate with other Chapters. Such at least has always been the law and usage in this jurisdiction.

JOHN SMITH was a member of Chapter No. 1, when it died. He was, and is still, poor, and in order to get a certificate he must pay up what he owes, but being unable to do this, the Grand Body remits its dues. This puts him square on the books of that Chapter, and as such he is granted a dimit, not from the Grand Chapter, but from No. 1.

Companion ISAACS suggests a way, viz., to give him a "diploma," which, for affiliation, would not be worth a row of pins. Then he suggests putting him under the jurisdiction of the Chapter nearest to where he resides, which may be four thousand miles off, and where his Chapter account is no more known than is the private life of Shakespeare by the great race horse "Fellow Craft." From the fact that Companion ISAACS has been compelled to suggest "some way," is rather good evidence that his State has no fixed or well defined law on the subject, and for the benefit of all concerned we herewith publish the form of our Grand Chapter dimits :—

GRAND SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
Grand Chapter of Missouri. }
SAINT LOUIS, 187

To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting :—

This will certify, that Comp.
was a member, in good standing, of Chapter, No,
of County, Mo. Said Chapter having ceased to exist, and he having paid up all dues, this DIMIT is granted to said companion, and he is recommended to the fraternal regards of all Chapters and Masons, wherever dispersed.

Given under my hand and the seal of the M. E. Grand Chapter of
Missouri, the date above written.

Grand Secretary.

Come, dear companion, recommend this law to your Grand Chapter, and when adopted, then "resolve" to "go, and sin no more," by hauling California, Missouri & Co. over the coals.

Comp. GOULEY complains of bad eye-sight, and assigns that as an excuse for the brevity of his report, but it is so great an improvement upon the last that we are inclined to confess ourself satisfied. We can't submit to condensation from GOULEY any more than we could from CORSON. We are sorry they have *both* got sore eyes, and hope the frequent use of the *microscope* has nothing to do with it.

Don't call us WIGGINS, Comp. GOULEY; we can't stand it; we don't want anything but what belongs to us, and that final s isn't our property.

There are eighty-four chartered Chapters in this jurisdiction, having an aggregate membership of 4014.

The M. E. RUFUS E. ANDERSON was elected Grand High Priest, and the R. E. GEORGE FRANK GOULEY was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address: St. Louis.

NEBRASKA.

As we were writing the conclusion to our report, Nebraska came to hand and we hail her advent with pleasure. The pamphlet before us is a handsome one of ninety-one pages, containing the transactions of the seventh and eighth Annual Convocations, held respectively on the eleventh day of November, 1873, and the fifth day of January, 1875.

The seventh Annual Convocation was held in the City of Omaha—the *M. E.*: ROBT R. LIVINGSTON, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.*: DANIEL H. WHEELER being Grand Secretary. Eight subordinate Chapters were represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered an interesting and able Address, in which he congratulates his companions upon the healthful and vigorous condition of the Order. One dispensation was issued for the formation of a new Chapter, which was the only dispensation issued during his term of office.

Several applications were made to him for special dispensations, to all which he had the moral courage to say nay, and for this firmness he is entitled to great credit. He is rightly of the opinion that "dispensations should never be asked for, unless pressing and most urgent causes, which will not admit of delay, imperatively demand the interference of the presiding Grand Officer." He strongly hints that, if officers of the subordinate Chapters would only read and remember the laws of the Grand Chapter, the Grand High Priest would not be annoyed with so many trivial questions, and he deems a fair knowledge of the law to be one of the essential qualifications necessary in him who seeks to wield the gavel in the East. We concur.

We are pleased to know that the moral atmosphere of Nebraska is so pure as the following extract implies:—

Various questions are at present agitating the Masonic mind. Profanity, intemperance, gambling, and lotteries are each receiving attention from the Grand Easts of sister jurisdictions, and I feel, companions, that words of mine would avail little if all the force and beauty of the lessons we have learned are unheeded. Man never was an angel—the utopian idea of abstract perfection on earth seems to be an impossibility. It may be well enough, therefore, to raise the voice of warning and reach out the fraternal hand to draw back such as lean dangerously over the abyss of such vices. For my own part, companions, I fail to see any threatening dangers in this jurisdiction, requiring any interference on the part of your Grand High Priest. In a land blessed as ours is with churches and temperance societies, every human being, whether a Mason or not, has abundant opportunities of inquiring his way through the sunshine and sorrow of earth, without our assuming the purposes of such bodies to ourselves. Humbly, respectfully, and with full confidence in the better nature of our fellow-beings, I believe our mission to be "Masonry." Let us never forget the lessons as taught us—let us practice outside what we learn within our sacred walls, and devote ourselves thoroughly and earnestly to our own great work in its proper division of time—never neglecting our other duties—and all will be well.

There is no Report on Correspondence, the reason assigned being that it costs too much to print it.

We deem it poor economy to retrench in this direction, and we hope our companions of Nebraska will soon see the propriety of returning to the ancient order of things, and again giving us such treats as we have been accustomed to receive in Reports on Correspondence from that jurisdiction. We fear Comp. WHEELER waxes indolent in his old age, and wishes to avoid the labor of writing the reports; so he kicks up a row about the printing and prevails upon the Finance Committee to report against further expense in that direction. Take the back track, Comp. WHEELER, and let us have the reports.

The eighth Annual Convocation was held in the city of Lincoln on the fifth day of January, 1875, the *R. E.*: CHARLES F. GOODMAN, Deputy Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.*: WILLIAM R. BOWEN being Grand Secretary. The proceedings have as a frontispiece a handsome steel plate engraving, representing the Grand High Priest, Comp. ROBERT W. FURNAS, who looks like a *furnace* lighted with the fire of intelligence. Other official duties prevented his attendance at the opening of

the Grand Chapter, but he put in an appearance before the close. Ten chartered Chapters were represented at this Convocation.

The Address of the Grand High Priest was read by the Grand Secretary. The following decisions were rendered:—

To the question propounded: "Can a Master Mason holding a dimit apply and become a member of the Chapter?" I decided: Under our laws governing, "the applicant must be a member in good standing of some Lodge." This really need not be called a decision of mine, because the law on the subject is plain and definite.

Another question: "Can a companion under suspension for non-payment of dues become one of the applicants for a dispensation?" I decided he could not.

Still another question has been propounded: "Can a dimitted Royal Arch Mason holding his dimit from a Blue Lodge be received into membership of a Chapter before depositing his dimit from the Blue Lodge?" Answer: No.

Comp. WHEELER was numerously around, yet no Report on Correspondence appears.

The M.: E.: CHARLES F. GOODMAN was elected Grand High Priest, and the R.: E.: WILLIAM R. BOWEN, was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address: Omaha.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire was held in the city of Concord on the twentieth day of May, 1873,—the M.: E.: EDWARD GUSTINE, Grand High Priest, presiding, the R.: E.: ABEL HUTCHINS being Grand Secretary. Fifteen subordinate Chapters were represented.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is brief and confined to matters of local interest. From it we learn that a year of prosperity has been enjoyed and that the 'dark angel' has been so busy in other jurisdictions that New Hampshire has been exempt from his visits. The proceedings were exceedingly brief and nothing of general interest transpired.

An excellent Report on Correspondence was submitted by Comp. JOHN J. BELL, who reviews the transactions of twenty-six Grand Chapters in an able and courteous manner. Of California he says:—

The Rep. For. Cor. reviews thirty-three proceedings including New Hampshire, in a racy way, which is interesting to read. The committee had often heard of keys, but had never seen one. We wonder what they call them on the Pacific coast. They criticise the attempt of the Grand High Priest of Georgia, to make Masonry a religion, or the substitute for religion. They do not approve the action in New York relative to the Order of High Priesthood. They dissent from a decision of Mississippi that a stated meeting of a Chapter may be continued from day to day. So far as the decision permits calling from labor to refreshment, and allowing the companions to separate to meet at a subsequent day, we agree entirely with the dissent; but if the Chapter be closed to meet at an appointed time to complete its work when again opened, it seems to us all right, and a much better practice than that of our Grand Bodies calling to refreshment as they do.

The M.: E.: EDWARD GUSTINE was re-elected Grand High Priest, and the R.: E.: JOHN A. HARRIS was elected Grand Secretary. Address: Concord.

NEW JERSEY

The eighteenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of New Jersey was held in the city of Trenton, on the ninth day of September, 1874—the M.: E.: WILLIAM H. McILHANNEY, Grand High Priest, presiding, the R.: E.: THOMAS J. CORSON being Grand Secretary. Twenty-nine chartered Chapters were represented at the opening, and eight Past Grand High Priests, two Past Grand Kings, and a Past Grand Scribe honored the occasion by their presence.

The pamphlet containing the proceedings is embellished with a fine steel engraved portrait of the popular and efficient Grand Secretary, Comp. THOMAS J. CORSON, whose dignified and intellectual features, *beautiful in their hairiness*, suggest the severe gravity of the ancient patriarch rather than the ebullient humor which characterizes the genial correspondent of New Jersey.

The proceedings were commenced with prayer, after which an "ode" was sung, composed by Comp. I. L. REGISTER. We think the order of exercises should have been arranged so that the prayer should have succeeded the ode, for if ever a man needed to have a prayer *registered* in his behalf, the composer of that *pome* is *the* man. It is not quite equal to the one inflicted by the *singing pilgrim* upon the Grand Chapter of Canada, but it is sufficiently fearful to set one's teeth on edge.

We give one verse as a specimen :—

Let us then be prompt to duty,
Gaining for our work th' credit :
That being good, and square, and true,
Modesty shall speak its merit.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is principally confined to matters of local interest and is a clear, straight-forward, business-like paper. He announces the death of three worthy companions, members of the Grand Chapter, during the year, two of them, Comps. GEORGE A. TATOR and ISRAEL BALDWIN, being Past Grand High Priests; the other, Comp. JOHN H. G. HAWES, was Grand Master of the Third Vail. It is evident from the eloquent and feeling tribute paid by the Grand High Priest to their memory, that the deceased companions were held in high estimation by their bereaved brethren. He congratulates the Grand Chapter upon the prosperous condition of the Order and says that peace, harmony, and prosperity exist throughout the jurisdiction. He rejoices in the fact that "to-day, for the first time in the history of the Grand Chapter, *all* the officers are properly clothed." We hope they are all well *suit*ed.

Eighteen Representatives were appointed near other Grand Chapters, and ten were received and accredited as representatives near this Grand Chapter.

Some difficulties arising from violation of jurisdictional rights were amicably and satisfactorily settled.

One dispensation was granted for the formation of a new Chapter and six dispensations were granted for special purposes.

We note the following decisions :—

1. Withdrawal from membership in a Lodge, and remaining as a dimitted Mason, does not affect membership in a Chapter.
2. The issue of certificates of membership should be the action of the Chapter, not of any officer.
3. When a companion is suspended or expelled from his Lodge, the Chapter cannot demand an official notice of the same; action must be taken upon other reliable information.
4. That Decision No. 20, page 80, Proceedings of 1869, being in conflict with the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, and also that of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, is null and void.
5. Material of other jurisdictions, which, on application from a Chapter in this jurisdiction, has been lawfully granted to them, becomes the sole property of such Chapter to whom it has been assigned. Should the candidate be rejected, he cannot be accepted by any other Chapter, without the consent of the Chapter to whom he was originally assigned.

Decision Number 1, may be all right under the laws of New Jersey, but would not hold water in California. Relative to decision Number 5, we shall have something to say under the head of General Grand Chapter.

The reports of the Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, and Grand Scribe show that those officers have been zealous in the discharge of their duties, and that the condition of the subordinate Chapters visited by them is most satisfactory.

The chairman of the Committee on History reported that the history would probably be ready for publication next year, and the Committee were continued with authority to incur all necessary expenses in prosecuting the work.

Representatives were received with grand honors and warmly welcomed from the following Grand Chapters, viz., Alabama, Arkansas, Canada, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Michigan, Ohio, and Vermont.

The Report on Correspondence is, of course, by Comp. THOMAS J. CORSON, and is equal to his best, which is saying a great deal in its favor. The proceedings of thirty-seven Grand Chapters are reviewed in the writer's inimitable style, and the reader must be dull and unappreciative indeed if he does not receive pleasure and profit from its perusal. California, for 1874, receives a generous share of his attention. He has many kind words for us and as we read the good things he says of us, our conscience pricks us for having said anything about that "Ode," but then we thought we owed it to Corson, to state the fact that he didn't write it. Last year we gave him the credit of writing an Ode which he didn't write at all. It was a creditable production, and Corson modestly says he couldn't have written it if he had tried; he takes good care, however, that no one shall make the mistake of crediting him with the *last* performance in that line, by carefully *registering* the author.

He thus greets California on her twentieth birth-day:—

In these days of pleasant theoretical inflation, when, through imagination's rose colored glasses, we see our pocket-books attain a lovely degree of corpulency, while stern fact points to a painfully practical contraction, when the same pocket-books are, in the classic language of the immortal Toots, of "no consequence whatever;" in these halcyon days, foreseen by sage and foretold by prophet, when everything is lively and the anserine fowl hangeth very high, when Credit Mobilier schemes, back pay freebooting and Sanborn contractors have *carte blanche* on Uncle Sam's treasure vaults, to the infinite joy and irrepressible delight of all patriotic tax-payers, while the self-sacrificing Solons, who drive their landaulets down Pennsylvania Avenue, and "wrestle with their hash" at Willard's, gravely inform us "dear people" that the country is too poor to allow of any appropriation being made towards holding a Centennial Celebration of our National existence; in these wonderful days wherein prophecies are fulfilled and miracles are daily wrought, when sham and shadow reign in the stead of substance and reality, it is a comfort to the soul to get hold of such a bright and shining nugget of pure ore as is presented in the proceedings of the last Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of California, which was held in April, 1874, and at which there were present all of the Grand Officers (except the Deputy, who had been removed by death,) a large number of Past Grand Officers, and the representatives of forty Subordinate Chapters.

He quotes liberally and approvingly from the Address of Comp. DAVIES, and says the Grand Chapter did an act of justice in adopting the resolution offered by the Committee on Jurisprudence relative to restoration after suspension by a Lodge of Master Masons. He characterizes our report of that year as a "*lovely*" one and we elevate our castor. He considers our remarks upon a belief in the immortality of the soul as sound doctrine; and, referring to our theory on the objection question, he says we have *some* sense of right and justice, and hopes, in good time, we will be converted to the true faith. He catches us tripping in the following:—

Comp. WIGGIN states that the Grand Chapter of Illinois had appointed a representative to the Grand Chapter of Ontario, which is the first intimation that we had received that Ontario had any Grand Chapter. When was this Grand Chapter formed?

If we are not more careful in future, we shall have to adopt Corson's example and introduce a page or two of *errata*; for Ontario, read Canada, Comp. CORSON, and all will be well. We presume the mistake was made by the inability of the proof-reader to decipher "*our somewhat peculiar handwriting.*"

Under the head of Canada, he thus frees his mind on the objection question:—

Thank God! the Grand Chapter of our little State allows no such injustice to be practiced upon elected candidates as they have to suffer in some other jurisdictions. Here, at least, we hold a Masonic promise to be sacred and inviolable, be it made to whom it may. And if any tender-footed brother or companion desires to prevent the progress of a candidate who has been duly elected, he must state and *prove* that there is good and sufficient cause why he should be stayed, otherwise the candidate will be advanced to full membership; and if the sensitive soul of the objector is shocked by the presence of the new comer he can either sit in the corner and suck his thumb until "purity gets off of his back," or else he can "get up and get." Strict justice to all is the rule which governs us, and we have found it to work well.

Under the head of Louisiana he gives his ideas on Reports on Correspondence, 'n which we fully concur. He says:—

Now it seems to us that it would be a simple impossibility to read in full, before a Grand Body, a Report on Correspondence, unless it was such a miserable condensation as to have all the good squeezed out of it. We have almost forty Grand Chapters on our exchange list, and can you ask us to give all of the information of real vital interest, concerning the proceedings of these Grand Chapters, in such abbreviated form that it can be read at one sitting? The idea is preposterously absurd. A report should be an epitome of all important transactions which have occurred in other jurisdictions; and it should be carefully studied by companions when they have leisure to do so, and preserved for purpose of reference. The time which would be consumed in reading the report, is required for the purpose of transacting the necessary business of the Annual Convocation. In our jurisdiction—and we like the plan—the report is printed about a fortnight before the time of the Annual Convocation, and a copy is sent to each member of the Grand Chapter, that he may have an opportunity to call the attention of the Grand Chapter to anything which may be contained therein, if he should deem it necessary to do so. It involves very little expense, and with us, at least, the plan has worked admirably well.

We are pleased to see that Comp. CORSON agrees with us upon the question of Masonic burials. In his review of Massachusetts he says:—

At this same Convocation the Grand High Priest “submitted a form of burial service” for Royal Arch Masons, which was referred to a committee who subsequently reported in favor of the project, which report was adopted. We are sincerely sorry that this action was taken, and hope that the example may not be followed by other jurisdictions. We are opposed to the use of any but the burial service of the Lodge, because any other service excludes from participation therein many worthy brothers who have never advanced beyond the Lodge. Will not Massachusetts give us a burial service for the Council (R. and S. M.) and thus give a fellow a chance to be buried from the highest point to which he may have attained?

The text of the new service is printed with the proceedings, and although it is very beautiful and the selections from Scripture very appropriate, it is not one whit better than the funeral service as authorized in symbolic Masonry.

He gives GOULEY of Missouri a fearful raking for his condensing qualities, but we are inclined to believe that GOULEY had a good reason for presenting that compressed affair, and that he just lays off and laughs in his sleeve at the pungent criticisms upon it which greet him from all quarters.

CORSON gives him the following thrust, but as GOULEY is a healthy old *Pachyderm*, we don't believe his cuticle will be even tittilated. Speaking of Missouri, CORSON says:—

There is no report on correspondence—or, what is worse, there is an apology for a report which is no credit to the author and of no possible benefit to the craft. This report, which purports to have been written by Companion FRANK GOULEY, bears about the same relation to former reports by the same author as Lowell thought the American newspaper bore to the “London Punch.”

“The American Punch like the English no doubt,
Just the sugar, and lemon, and whisky left out.”

Companion GOULEY attempts to apologize for his dereliction of duty by saying that he desired to make a “condensed” report. Well, yes, it is condensed—so much condensed as to have squeezed out all the wit, genius and wisdom which have characterized his former reports—so well condensed in fact that Arkansas receives one line and a quarter, California two and a quarter lines, Mississippi three lines, while the proceedings of sixteen Grand Chapters (New Jersey among them) which had been received by him are not honored by any notice whatever, except that the officers' names are placed in the statistical table. Such a report is little short of an insult to the Grand Chapters whose proceedings had been received, as well as a disgrace to the author. Listen to our prophecy—Companion GOULEY will not play such a scurvy trick again. He dare not do it.

Under the head of Pennsylvania, he gets off the following:—

Companion KELLY frankly acknowledges that Companion WIGGIN, of California, has converted him to a belief in the propriety of the Representative System. We're glad of that—glad, because KELLY has been led to see the error of his ways; and glad because WIGGIN did the job, for this good act will serve to atone for some of the sins of our California confrere, and prove that he is not yet entirely lost.

We are happy to say that Comp. KELLY is not our only convert, for in addition, since we have been upon the war path, the scalps of BURNHAM, of Rhode Island, and

DADMUN, of Massachusetts, hang at our belt, and yet we are not satisfied, but look for more victims by which to atone more fully for our sins; but we would like to read of a "job" which would in any measure atone for the sins of our incorrigible confrere.

We would like to linger over this exceedingly interesting report and commune further with this genial and true hearted companion. Our eyes have never beheld him, but we feel towards him all the affection of a brother, and sincerely hope that sometime we may enjoy the pleasure of meeting him face to face. We give his concluding remarks, and most fervently hope that it may be long, very long before the *presentiment* therein alluded to is realized.

He thus feelingly concludes a report which we wish all Royal Arch Masons might have the privilege of reading:—

Conclusion.

If your Reporter has succeeded in making a fair exhibit of the present condition and probable prospects of Royal Arch Masonry, as set forth in the proceedings of the various Grand Chapters which have been examined and commented upon by him, then every companion must feel his heart glow with ecstatic joy as he beholds the abundant evidences of peace and prosperity which surround our Fraternity on every side. Everywhere are heard sounds of grateful praise and glad exultation. Our beloved institution is in the very zenith of prosperity. No note of discord is heard within our Arches, while from every quarter comes the soul-gladdening shout that all is well.

I shall not attempt to apologize for the imperfect manner in which my work has been performed. Considering the material which has been furnished, I feel that I have not offered such work as the overseers can conscientiously approve. But if my companions knew all—if they knew how the body and mind had been prostrated by disease—their criticism of my work would be tempered by mercy. A painful presentiment forces itself upon my mind, that this may be the last report that I shall ever have the pleasure of presenting to this Grand Body. God grant that this may not be so, for I love the work so well that the thought of ceasing it makes me shudder. But whatever may await me in God's mysterious providence, I pray that I may be cheered by the thought that I have the love of my brethren and companions. If I have ever written a word that has caused pain—if my love of fun and my natural tendency to indulge in joking has wounded a single heart, I pray God to forgive me. Life is too short and the end too near for any of us to do or say aught that would inflict pain.

"Well, either you or I,
After whatever is to say is said,
Must see the other die,
Or hear, through distance, of the other dead,
Sometime."

And you or I must hide
Poor empty eyes and faces, wan and wet,
With Life's great grief, beside
The other's coffin, sealed with silence, yet,
Sometime."

And you or I must look
Into the other's grave, or far or near,
And read, as in a book
Writ in the dust, words we made bitter here,
Sometime."

With a heart full of love to all true Masons, and with an earnest desire that every one of us may live consistently with our professions, so that it may be said of each of us, after we shall have passed from here to hereafter, "He loved his fellow-men."

I am, yours fraternally,

THOS. J. CORSON, *Chairman.*

The M.: E.: JOHN WOOLVERTON, was elected Grand High Priest, and Comp. THOMAS J. CORSON draws the skeleton of a gigantic Saurian which passes for his signature as Grand Secretary. Address: Trenton.

NEW YORK.

The seventy-seventh Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of New York was held in the city of Albany, commencing on the third day of February, 1874,—the *M. . E. .* THOMAS C. CASSIDY, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. . E. .* CHRISTOPHER G. FOX being Grand Secretary. One hundred and eighty-one subordinate Chapters were represented.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is an eloquent and ably written paper. In it he propounds some pertinent questions which all Royal Arch Masons should consider well before answering. They are as follows:—

As Mark Masters have we faithfully earned the wages which we have received? Have we rendered a just return for all the Masonic privileges we have enjoyed? Have we performed such work as will, in the day of final account, stand the test of the Grand Overseer's square? Or have we so lived as to deserve to be thrown away among the rubbish as worthless stones, unfit for places in that beautiful Temple not made with hands?

As Past Masters have we, as we solemnly promised when we were installed, endeavored to work diligently, live creditably, and act honorably by all men; and have we kept our agreement to promote the general good of society, to cultivate the social virtues, and to propagate a knowledge of the Royal Art?

As most Excellent Masters have we availed ourselves of all suitable occasions to impart light to such as were in darkness; and has our deportment in the outward walks of life been such as to maintain that fair and unspotted reputation which should ever distinguish those who have passed through the solemn and impressive ceremonies of this beautiful degree?

As Royal Arch Masons have we attentively studied and treasured up the lessons of wisdom to be found in that sacred Book of Law, which, though once buried and lost for gloomy ages beneath the ruins of the Temple, has in this age of improvement been multiplied by countless numbers, and so cheapened as to place it within the reach of the poorest and most destitute?

He was present at the dedication of the Grand Chapter Hall in the new Masonic Temple at Philadelphia, and from his report we infer that his reception was of an entirely different character from that accorded to Comp. YOUNG, of Maine. He says "The beautiful and chaste appearance of the room, the magnificent and picturesque display, and the unbounded hospitality exhibited by the companions of that State will not be easily forgotten."

The following decisions were rendered:—

1. That a member who has been stricken from the rolls of his Lodge for non-payment of dues, if in good standing in his Chapter, is entitled to vote and is eligible to any office therein.

2. That at the installation of the officers of a Chapter, the installing officer having received, in writing, good and valid reasons why a companion should not be installed, ought to refuse to install him, and immediately appointed a committee of investigation.

3. That a companion Royal Arch Mason cannot visit a Chapter while under suspension for non-payment of dues: and that a companion suspended for any cause whatever forfeits all his rights and privileges.

4. That a companion, who has not been suspended or expelled by his Lodge, though unaffiliated as a Master Mason, is a member of the Chapter in good standing, and must be returned as such.

5. That a dispensation to make Royal Arch Masons at sight could not be issued, and that the Grand High Priest would violate section 50 of the Constitution were he to issue one. That section is very plain, and not capable of a double construction. I declined the application.

6. That though a Lodge should make the serious mistake of suspending a member for non-payment of dues, instead of striking him from the roll, as provided in the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, the Chapter has no right to question the legality of the proceeding, and the companion would not be entitled to a dimit, until restored by his Lodge or some other proper authority.

7. That in granting a dimit dues should be paid up to the time of application.

8. A companion of *Corinthian* Chapter No. 159, was suspended in the year 1868 for non-payment of \$11 75 dues. In 1871 an amendment was made to the by-laws of said Chapter, requiring suspended companions to pay dues during suspension. This they were authorized to do by section 31 of the Constitution of this Grand Body. The suspended companion applied for restoration, on payment of the sum due in 1868. The High Priest of the Chapter decided that annual dues should be paid in

addition, during the suspension. An appeal was made to me, and I confirmed the action of the High Priest, viz., that the amount due in 1868, and annual dues since the passage of the by-law in 1871 in addition, were required to be paid before restoration.

Decision Number One depends for its validity upon local legislation. Number Two we commend to Comp. PIERSON, of Minnesota, with our endorsement, and in the remainder we fully concur.

We hope the following rebuke to those, who, in the performance of our solemn ceremonies, manifest a desire to play circus, will have a salutary effect:—

There is another subject to which I desire to allude, and that is the manner in which some of the degrees are too often conferred. I mean the adding of treatment not required by the ritual, and repulsive to gentlemen of cultivated tastes, and at times sufficient to cause disgust instead of exalted ideas on the part of the recipients. Its practice is offensive to good manners, and should be at once and forever discontinued.

We have known instances where gentlemen who have been subjected to this "horse play," as the Committee on Jurisprudence term it, became so thoroughly disgusted that they have never visited a Chapter since. The Committee in their report make use of the following sensible language:—

The subject alluded to by the Grand High Priest in his address, as to the manner of conferring some of the degrees, was referred to this committee. We have only to say of this subject, that we most cordially and fully concur in the views he has expressed, and trust that his reproof of the practices referred to will have the desired effect without further legislation upon the point. Whatever is a departure from the standard work, is in itself reprehensible; but to introduce levity and raillery—raillery, more often with "horse play" in it, not only mars the harmony of our beautiful ritual, but produces unpleasant results in its effects upon the mind and feelings of the candidate. We trust that the timely admonition in the address will be remembered and respected in future.

The report of the Grand Treasurer shows a balance on hand of \$5851 06. The total receipts, according to the report of the Grand Secretary, were \$13,885 00. From the report of the same official we learn that 1748 companions have been added to the Grand Chapter Registry during the year, and the total number now borne upon the roll is 18,481. The Grand Secretary also reports that—

In the return of *Warren* Chapter No. 23, *two* companions are reported as having dimitted, and also their election subsequently as honorary members of the same Chapter. Persuaded that there is no provision in the Constitution justifying the change from active to honorary membership in a Chapter, and believing the practice alluded to unlawful and one to be condemned, the matter is brought to your attention for such action as may be deemed necessary and proper.

Upon this subject the Committee on Jurisprudence report as follows:—

In the matter of honorary membership, referred to in the report of the Grand Secretary, the committee fully concur in the views expressed by that officer. There is no such thing as honorary membership known in the Constitution and regulations of our Grand Chapter; and, in the case before us, we are assured that it was intended as a mark of respect for some of their veteran and beloved companions, and with no intention of violating any regulation, or introducing any innovation. Chapters always have it in their power to secure their benevolent intentions in pursuance of the laws and regulations of the Craft.

The following question was referred to the same committee and subjoined is their report. We concur:—

"What course should the High Priest of a Chapter pursue when he learns, previous to the installation, that one of its officers elect has been guilty of appropriating to his own use funds of a Lodge of Master Masons while treasurer of said Lodge, and neglecting and refusing to pay over such funds to his successor in office?"

We conceive that the best mode in such cases, is always to present and act upon charges; the right of defence being one of which no companion can be deprived. It may be necessary to guard against wrong by immediate action; but in most cases it is better to install the officer, and then suspend or censure him to be suspended from his official functions until action be had upon the charges. If that action result in a conviction, then a vacancy will be made in the office, to be determined and supplied in the constitutional manner.

The following report from the Committee on Grievances is the best evidence that our companions of New York understand and practice the three-fold tenets of Masonry.

The undersigned Committee on Grievances, have the satisfaction to report that no case has been presented for their consideration. To the mind of your committee it is a most gratifying fact, that in all this great jurisdiction, embracing nearly two hundred subordinate Chapters and more than eighteen thousand Royal Arch Masons, no complaint has been made of injustice or of wrong-doing, so as to call for interference, examination or discipline on the part of this Grand Body. No higher evidence could be afforded of the prosperity, the harmony, the wise and just administration of the affairs, and the orderly working within this jurisdiction of the Royal Craft, than the fact that everywhere there is brotherly love, fraternal regard and orderly working, to such an extent that no single complaint was preferred asking for review or relief from this Grand Chapter.

Comp. OGDEN submitted the following question, which was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence :—

A subordinate Chapter failing or neglecting to elect officers at the time of the annual election, is its last High Priest entitled to a seat in the Grand Chapter as its representative ?

The committee submitted an able and exhaustive report upon the question and were "forced by inexorable logic" to the conclusion embodied in the following resolution, which has always been the law in this jurisdiction :—

1. *Resolved*, That when a Chapter shall have failed, through unavoidable circumstances, to elect its officers at the annual election as provided by the Constitution, its officers continue to exercise all their duties, powers and prerogatives until their successors be lawfully elected and installed into office.

Comp. D. A. OGDEN again presents an interesting and thorough report on correspondence. He does not hesitate to express his views upon any question of general interest, but tells us what was done in other jurisdictions and then tells us what he thinks about it. Of such is the fraternity of good reporters. He thus comments upon the reception of his initial report of last year :—

After looking over carefully all the proceedings, we find the correspondence of those who had received the proceedings containing our last report, such kindly, and in some instances such laudatory notice of our maiden efforts in the reportorial field, that our modesty makes us blush, but our heart warms towards our brethren and companions who have thus so cordially greeted and welcomed us into the ranks of the "Mutual Admiration Society of Masonic Reporters;" and we say, with all our heart, we thank you for your kind words; and while fully aware of our imperfections, we will try, so far as intent and effect is concerned, to retain your kind regards and deserve your friendship.

He reviews the transactions of thirty-four Grand Chapters courteously and fairly; his own views are clearly and logically expressed, and, although he is not always right according to our notion, we can afford an honest difference of opinion without elevating our lumbar vertebræ. He locks horns with us upon the question of the right of Grand Chapters to levy assessments. Hear him :—

Comp. WIGGIN takes issue with the action of the Grand Chapter of Minnesota, in sustaining the action of two subordinate Chapters who refused to pay an assessment made to pay for publishing proceedings, on the ground of want of constitutional power on the part of the Grand Chapter to levy such assessment or tax; and he says if it had been him, he would not have rested till the Chapters were deprived of their charters for contumacy. In this we think Comp. WIGGIN is altogether too fast, and takes decidedly the weak side of the question. The Constitution of Minnesota provides for "dues" and for "fees" to meet the engagements of the Grand Chapter; but "dues" and "fees" have been fixed for that purpose, and they are not in the nature of taxes and assessments to be levied at any time and for special purposes. It is not contumacious on the part of a subordinate to resist the unauthorized taxation on the part of the Grand Body, but a manly and becoming defense of constitutional rights. If Grand Bodies can assess subordinates for engagements incurred outside the Constitution, then may they incur *engagements* for *any purpose*, and assess the subordinates to pay. We believe in no such right or power. "Dues" and "fees" are provided for, are fixed in amount, are understood, and are binding; but beyond this, we hold the Grand Body has no authority to go, save only in the legitimate way of amendment of the Constitution.

Comp. OGDEN's argument does not change our convictions in this matter. We hold that the Grand Chapter had a perfect right *under the Constitution* to levy the assessment, and the subordinate was bound to obey.

The Constitution provides, in defining the powers of the Grand Chapter, that: "It may require from the subordinate Chapters such dues and fees as will *at all times* discharge the engagements of the Grand Chapter."

How the English language can more plainly express the right contended for, we are at a loss to perceive. But the Grand Chapter of Minnesota has settled the question satisfactorily to itself, we presume, and we don't propose to waste our thunder in profitless discussion.

Under the head of Connecticut, he says:—

In commenting on California, Comp. LEWIS unites with Comp. WIGGIN in dissenting from the Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of California, that a Chapter under dispensation could not try and expel a member, and hence that the proceedings of *Helena* Chapter, U. D., in expelling M. F. TRUETT, were irregular and must be set aside.

Our own view inclines to the reporter's, and against the G. H. P. In one sense, the Chapter U. D. is inchoate; but it can hardly be said that it is so far an imperfect body that it cannot discipline its own members; that, in our judgment, would be very bad law, and might lead to very lax administration and disorganizing effects.

Now, Comp. OGDEN, your spectacles must have been just a little humid when you reviewed that report. It wasn't the Grand High Priest of California at all that we dissented from, but a much bigger injun; no less than the General Grand High Priest himself, upon whose report we had the temerity to flesh our—no, we mean to ink our maiden quill, and we are glad to say that our views have been sustained by all the reporters who have noticed the question at issue.

Under the head of Indiana, in commenting upon the address of the Grand High Priest, he says:—

The system of appointing representatives, he decidedly disapproves, and hence refused to accredit any to other Grand Bodies. Probably nobody but the Grand Chapter of Indiana has suffered much by the omission. The practice certainly does no injury; while it does, in appearance and in fact, promote good feeling and harmony between the various Grand Chapters in and bordering on the United States. Objection to this well-intended and generally useful practice, appears to us fastidious and out of place. Everything looking towards and tending to brotherly intercourse and kindly feeling; everything calculated to foster the nobler, better, kindlier emotions of the heart, is Masonic, and eminently fit and proper to be done and encouraged.

Upon the subject of "one legged Masonry," under the same head, he discourses as follows:—

A Committee on Foreign Correspondence was appointed, and we may look for a report next year.

On the subject of a brother's receiving the capitular degrees, after having lost a right foot, a committee, to whom the subject was referred, reported want of time for thorough examination, and asked and were granted further time. This committee make a valuable suggestion in their report, viz.: That this subject, upon which there is so much diversity of opinion, and which in many jurisdictions is being discussed, should be settled by the General Grand Chapter, and thus give uniformity of action throughout the Union. We fully concur in this view, provided there be authority in the General Grand Chapter to decide and power to enforce. Doubtless the power or right to decide exists, but on this, as on other questions, the trouble is the want of authority to enforce. But we are sure that the general effect and influence of a decision by the General Grand Chapter would be beneficial, perhaps controlling in the matter, and thus settle for all the State Grand Chapters a difficult and troublesome question, and induce uniformity of practice.

We confess that our sympathies are on the side of the unfortunate, maimed brother, and our reason inclines to go with our sympathy. We cannot see how the loss of a foot or leg should superinduce the further misfortune of depriving a brother of the pleasures and benefits of the Royal Arch. To our mind we cannot find the stern necessity which some insist must follow the dire calamity, of stopping further progress in the sublime degrees and mysteries of the Chapter. We grant the question is not free from doubts, but we do not find absolute physical impossibilities; im-

pediments there are, but they are not insurmountable, and in so great an undertaking they should be encountered and overcome. We trust the whole matter will be referred to the General Grand Chapter, and if we are there, we will appear for the maimed and plead their cause.

We shall be obliged to class him with Comp. CARSON, of Ohio, and turn them both over to the tender mercies of CORSON, of New Jersey.

There are many good things in this excellent and most interesting report that we would gladly publish and comment upon, but we have neither time or space to follow Comp. OGDEN farther; so, with our best wishes for his health and prosperity, we will bid him God speed until next year.

The *M. E.* THOMAS E. CASSIDY, was re-elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* CHRISTOPHER G. FOX, Grand Secretary. Address: Buffalo.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The Grand Chapter of North Carolina commenced its twenty-sixth Annual Convocation in the city of Wilmington on the first day of June, 1874, the *M. E.* H. H. MUNSON, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* THOMAS M. GARDNER being Grand Secretary. Nine subordinates were represented.

The Address by the Grand High Priest is brief and rather desponding in tone. We regret exceedingly that our companions of North Carolina are not more prosperous, and would remind them of the old proverb: "It is always darkest just before day." Take courage companions, your night may be nearly over and a bright and glorious dawn of prosperity be in store for you; from our heart we say "So mote it be."

The petition of nine Master Masons to be allowed to take the Chapter degrees in Virginia for the purpose of establishing a new Chapter was very properly refused and the brethren recommended to apply to a Chapter in their own jurisdiction.

We think the Grand High Priest is somewhat behind the age in his views on the representative question. Hear him:—

I desire to call your attention to the representative system as at present conducted. If the object be to confer an empty honor upon a companion Royal Arch Mason, residing in another jurisdiction, the end is gained by such an appointment, but if mutual benefit is desired, the result is practically a failure. I would, therefore, recommend that the appointment of companions residing in other jurisdictions, as the representatives of this Grand Chapter in their several Grand Bodies, be discontinued.

The Grand Chapter adopted his views and the system, so far as North Carolina is concerned, is discontinued. We are of the opinion that our companions will yet take a sober second thought, and in common with the great majority of Grand Chapters will see that some good may be accomplished by this method of fraternal intercourse. That noble charity, the Orphan Asylum, is warmly eulogised and an earnest appeal for material aid is urged. He says:—

If permanency, therefore, is to be secured for our Orphan Asylum, Masons alone must be its main pillars of strength. The Grand Lodge, with praiseworthy zeal, has appropriated one thousand dollars per year for its support. Shall not the Grand Chapter also add its mite? Shall it not by enactment, initiate in its subordinates a system of a constant, never-failing flow of needful aid? Let our prayers and alms be daily given, and surely He who hears the orphan's cry will bless our humble efforts.

He recommends that definite action be taken on the substitute question, and also upon the subject of non-affiliation. He closes his address with the following appeal to his companions to throw off the lethargy which paralyzes them and awake once more to their duties and responsibilities as Royal Arch Masons:—

Companions: I regret, in closing, my inability to bring you "glad tidings of great joy." I fondly hoped for a thorough revival of Royal Arch Masonry in this jurisdiction during the Masonic year now gone. In a few, a very few Chapters increased zeal is manifest, but in the majority, luke-warmness exists. We are prone to find excuses

for the non-performance of duty, when our interest has abated, or the force of binding obligations become lessened. The past season has been one almost unprecedented in our national history. Suddenly, without a moment's warning, a financial panic swept over the country engulfing in its resistless flow, many bright, grand and noble prospects and paralyzing to a great extent public and private schemes for the future. This, added to the unfortunate position in which the war left us and from which we have not yet recuperated, is probably one reason why the love of many has waxed cold. In due time our commercial, mechanical and agricultural interests will revive, and shall we be less active in seeking to advance our Masonic interests? Shall we prove laggards in the race? Rather shall not individual and united effort be made to regain whatever may have been lost in the past? Shall we not in our own persons evince such an attachment to our beloved institution, so carrying into practice the symbolized truths of our beautiful ritual, that its diffusive influence may be felt in the Chapters with which we are severally connected, resulting in overcoming our lethargy, giving us a renewed consciousness of our obligations, and a tireless, unflagging zeal in the prosecution to the desired end of the work enjoined upon us? Thus will our institution be respected, its votaries honored, and mankind convinced "that the grand object of Masonry is to promote the happiness of the human race."

In the report of the committee to whom the address of the Grand High Priest was referred, we find one gleam of encouragement. They say:—

We appreciate the energetic labors of our *M.:E.* Grand High Priest in his efforts to revive Capitular Masonry within this jurisdiction, and are happy to note from the several applications to re-establish dormant Chapters, the gratifying success with which those efforts have been crowned.

On the questions of non-affiliation and substitutes the committee reported as follows:—

1. That as to the subject of the propriety of using substitutes, we are of opinion, that the practice being recognized by the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and in practice it sometimes becomes indispensable except at long and inconvenient delay, it should be approved by this Grand Chapter.

2. That no consideration be had on the subject of non-affiliation until after the determination of the pending question on that subject by the Grand Lodge of N. C.

The proposed amendment to the Constitution, striking out *Wilmington* and substituting *Raleigh* as the place where the Annual Convocation shall hereafter be held, was rejected, but was afterwards reconsidered and adopted by a unanimous vote.

Comp. JAMES SOUTHGATE presents an excellent Report on Correspondence, so far as he goes; but only twenty of the sister Grand Chapters are noticed, California being among those omitted. We regret this, for we want to know Comp. SOUTHGATE better; any one who expresses himself as he does under the head of Florida, commands at once our respect and sympathy. Let us keep the ball moving and there is no telling how much good may be accomplished.

Under the head of Florida, in reviewing the report of that staunch apostle of temperance, Comp. CARRUTH, he says:—

Comp. CARRUTH takes a sensible view of things in general, but in nothing does he excel his ardor for the temperance plank in his Masonic platform. We can't see how good and true men, especially Masons, can take any other position on this highly important subject. We say to Comp. CARRUTH, stand up to all opponents, "fight it out on that line if it takes all summer." Oh, when shall we realize our danger, not only as Christians but as Masons, from this demon, Intemperance. It is sapping the foundation of the Church, the State, the Lodge and Chapter. Many of our Grand Bodies have taken decided action in regard to Profanity and Drunkenness, and whether or not Comp. HORNER, of Louisiana, concede to them the right so to act, nevertheless, much good is being accomplished in this direction, and we would hail the day with heartfelt delight, if all, with one accord, would expel from our Lodge and Chapter, those who engage in this terrible traffic. We teach our votaries to exercise Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice, and when we endeavor to practice what we preach, companions say, you can't interfere with a Mason's legitimate business. There is the error. It is not legitimate to take our brother's life by handing him day after day the poisonous cup. Is it just to suspend a brother, or perhaps expel him, after he becomes a drunkard by the *legitimate*(?) business of the rum-seller? And oh, how doubly criminal is it for us to allow that very rum-seller to sit in judgment over the fallen brother and vote on his case! Go

on in the good work, Comp. CARRUTH, say we, and no matter how "spirited" your opponents become, you have the right side of the question, and armed with Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice, you can put ten thousand to flight.

These are our sentiments and we could not have better expressed them ourself.

Under the head of Iowa, he says:—

Wish we had space to copy the discussion between Comps. TAYLOR and WIGGIN on the "written work," but we have not. We must be permitted to say, however, that Comp. TAYLOR errs in his statement "that a copy of the standard work is committed to the care of the Grand High Priest in other States," etc., if he intends his remark to be general. We can refer him to our proceedings of 1871, when he will find a resolution ordering all books of cipher or mnemonics (much less the written work) to be burned, and subjecting any Companion or Chapter to heavy penalties, should such work be used by him or them. We consider it a violation of our most solemn O. B. to use such a work and eminently improper for any Grand Body to sanction the keeping of it, either in the Archives, or custody of the Grand High Priest.

We have failed to find, thus far, any of our companions who indorse the views of Comp. TAYLOR in this matter, and in this jurisdiction, as in North Carolina, any companion who should write the work or use a written work would suffer the extreme penalty of the law.

Under the head of Kansas, he says:—

Comp. CARR brings Arkansas to task for the following, which he regards as very poor law: "That it is not necessary for a Royal Arch Mason to affiliate with a symbolic Lodge before he can affiliate with a Chapter."

Upon this he comments as follows:—

We not only concur in the opinion of Comp. CARR, but go further. It is contrary to all law and usage. If the foundation be removed or impaired the structure must fall; symbolic masonry is the ground work of all masonry.

Really the further we progress with this companion the better we like him; his views are sound and intelligently expressed, and we find him almost invariably on the right side of the fence and never on it. But the best of friends must part, and although there is much yet in this able report which we would be glad to notice, yet time presses and we must close. His concluding remarks we presume explain why California was omitted from the report. He says:—

Your committee divided the work to lighten the task, but some members did not complete their portion in time for the printer, and hence the review of some jurisdictions is omitted, but we hope to notice them next year in due form. We beg indulgence at the hands of the "corps reportorial," as the labor of preparing this report has been performed under many disadvantages, and doubtless much has been overlooked which would interest the reader.

Go it alone next time, Comp. SOUTHGATE; you are sure to win.

The *M. E.* H. H. MUNSON was re-elected Grand High Priest, and the *R. E.* THOMAS M. GARDNER was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address: Wilmington.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia held a Special Convocation on the twenty-fifth day of June, 1873, for the purpose of constituting, or consecrating, as they term it, a subordinate Chapter. The ceremony was publicly performed, and at its conclusion the Grand High Priest, *M. E.* Comp. S. R. SIROOM, delivered an interesting and appropriate address, which was listened to with much interest by a large audience of ladies and gentlemen, who graced the occasion with their presence.

The fifth Annual Convocation was held in the city of Halifax on the second day of June, 1874,—the *M. E.* S. R. SIROOM, Grand High Priest presiding, the *R. E.* JAMES GOSSIP being Grand Secretary. Five subordinate Chapters were represented.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is principally confined to matters of local interest. He announces the death of Comp. ALEXANDER KEITH, the first *M. E.* Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia, and pays a fitting tribute to his memory. He makes some excellent suggestions to the High Priests of Chapters, among which is the following, which we extract:—

Do not let it be understood that Royal Arch Masonry consists solely in conferring degrees; it cannot be denied that the symbolism of each is beautiful, and when the several parts of our Ritual is fully given and well rendered by competent officers, cannot fail to make a favorable impression, yet, as you are well aware, there are many who grow tired of listening to the same thing night after night; some recreation, some change from the constant monotony is required. I believe meeting together occasionally in a social way will result beneficially, it would certainly enable you to become better acquainted one with another, thereby knitting you more firmly together in the bonds of our beloved Order. In Halifax of late years, not even the festivals of the Saints John have been in any way observed; this I do not consider is as it should be. A library, to which I have already referred, will tend also to remove the apathy which at present is existing among so many of us.

The motion by Comp. NASH to amend the Constitution so as "to admit none as members of a Chapter who are not subscribing members of a Blue Lodge," was discussed in all its bearings, and was finally lost by a large majority.

The Report on Correspondence is again presented by Comp. JAMES GOSSIP, the Grand Secretary; which announcement is sufficient guarantee of its excellence. He reviews the transactions of thirty-five Grand Chapters in a manner which is interesting and instructive. California, for 1874, receives courteous attention at his hands. After quoting the report of our Committee on Jurisprudence upon the question of restoration in the Chapter after suspension by a symbolic Lodge, he says:—

We do not concur in the view taken by the Grand Chapter of California who deprive a R. A. Mason of his privileges as such, without trial, because he may have been suspended from a Lodge. The Lodge has no more power over the laws guiding the Chapter than the Chapter has over those of the Lodge—each work under separate Constitutions which define to a nicety as to how the members of either body shall be dealt with in case of misdemeanor.

Our convictions are that to suspend a member from his privileges as a Royal Arch Mason, charges must regularly be preferred and trial had, as directed by the R. A. Constitution, without reference to any outside body; no other course in our opinion can be considered in accordance with justice.

We would respectfully ask Comp. GOSSIP from whence we derive our right to be Royal Arch Masons? Must we not be Master Masons before we become Royal Arch Masons? The Lodge having suspended a member from all the rights and privileges of Masonry, how can we as Royal Arch Masons, being also Master Masons, and faithful to our obligations as such, hold Masonic communication with him?

When a member of a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons is suspended or expelled by the Lodge of which he is a member, and no charge is preferred against him in the Chapter, he is marked on the roll as excluded. He is not declared to be suspended or expelled, but he is simply excluded from a participation in our rights and privileges, because of our inability to fraternize with a Mason who is suspended or expelled.

It is true that the Lodge has no power over the particular laws which govern the Chapter; but there are general laws and landmarks of Masonry which all are bound to respect, and one of these is, that no Masonic intercourse can be held with one who is suspended or expelled; and though a Mason may build the tower of his rank as high as that of Babel, when the Lodge knocks out his underpinning his house is bound to come down.

We may bluster as much as we please, throw ourselves upon our dignity as Royal Arch Masons and insist that the Lodge has no jurisdiction over us, yet if the Lodge takes a notion to expel one of us and the Chapter objects, the former body would say to the latter, in the language of an eminent American citizen, now serving his country in a public institution in the State of New York, "What are you going to do about it?"

We would be pleased to gossip further with our worthy companion, but the familiar spirit of the printer is after us and we forbear.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were re-elected. Address, Halifax.

OHIO.

The Grand Chapter of Ohio held its fifty-eighth Annual Convocation in the city of Dayton on the ninth day of September, 1874, the *M. E.* J. KELLY O'NEALL, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* JAMES NESBITT being Grand Secretary. One hundred and thirty-five chartered Chapters were represented.

The Grand High Priest in his address says:—

The history of Royal Arch Masonry in Ohio during the past year has been characterized by no unusual event. The craft have pursued their labors with zeal, and while as citizens they have participated in the exciting questions of the day, as Masons they have wisely adhered to that "temperance and prudence" which should be "the constant practice of every Mason," and by which their lives should be characterized: and while honestly entertaining their own views, liberally tolerant to the opinions of others, they have enjoyed the blessings of substantial peace, and the erection of our mystic temple on the broad foundation of charity and virtue, so wisely and firmly laid by our fathers, has steadily progressed. Differences of opinion have occurred, but they have been the manifestations of an earnest desire to promote the general welfare, protect individual rights and remove every obstacle to the general harmony and purity of our beloved institution.

We note the following decision:—

4. An objection by an individual member of a Chapter to the installation of a High Priest elect, if valid and of sufficient importance, should prevent the installation. Such objection being made, the installing officer should immediately require the objecting companion to give his reasons therefor, and must require that they be in writing. If the reasons are not given or are deemed insufficient, the installation should proceed. If the reasons given are, by the installing officer, deemed sufficient, if sustained, he should fix a time and place for their hearing, notify the parties, and proceed to investigate the charges. If, on such investigation, the charges are not sustained, the installation should proceed; but if the objections are sustained, he should so notify the parties, forbid the installation, and a new election should be ordered. If the installing officer is not the G. H. Priest, either party may appeal to him.—*Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Maine, 1872; M. E. J. H. DRUMMOND being of the committee.*

A brief but interesting Report on Correspondence is presented by Comp. S. M. SULLIVAN. He reports having received and reviewed the transactions of thirty-three Grand Chapters, among them California for 1874; but we have looked in vain for any allusion to California in the report. As he says our proceedings were received we are at a loss to understand why he did not review them with others; Comp. SULLIVAN has the floor to explain.

*; There are one hundred and thirty-five Chapters in this jurisdiction, with an aggregate membership of 8012. Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary re-elected. Address: Troy.

OREGON.

Clothed in a robe of brilliant scarlet, neat, tidy and graceful in all her appointments, comes to our annual feast our sister Oregon. Although but fourteen years of age, in point of beauty, excellence of arrangement, and general interest, she need fear no comparison with the oldest and most experienced of the Royal family.

The fourteenth Annual Convocation was held in the city of Portland on the fifth day of June, 1874,—the *M. E.* JAMES R. BAYLEY, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* R. P. EARHART being Grand Secretary. All the Grand officers were present, and six chartered Chapters were represented.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is, as usual in this jurisdiction, brief and to the point. He says what he has to say in as few words as possible, and stops when he has done.

From the following extract we infer that the Order in Oregon is in a healthy state of preservation:—

In rendering an account of the performance of my official duties, I desire first to state that through visitation and from correspondence, I find that the interest in Capitular Masonry has taken a new impetus, and the zeal manifested in all the Chapters

of this jurisdiction, is a harbinger of good works and increased prosperity in the future. The attendance at all regular and called Convocations of all the companions who can possibly attend, and the earnest desire to learn the work of the several degrees, speaks louder than words for the good results that shall follow this thirst for true Masonic knowledge.

He gives his companions some excellent advice relative to regular attendance upon the meetings of their respective Chapters, which they and others will do well to heed. He says:—

I desire to advise all members, both of Lodge and Chapter, to never miss attendance at meetings of your Lodges when within your power to be there; for thereby you acquire a habit of regular and punctual attendance, and that habit begets a desire to participate in all that pertains to the advancement of the good of the Order. So you may not say that this would not have been done had I been there. For it is not only your right but your duty, to be there as often as you can, without injury to your business or neglect to your family.

He has evidently read CARSON, and ignored CORSON; for in relation to a visit to a subordinate, he says:—

While speaking of the work of this Chapter, I desire to state that one of the petitioners received and balloted for, was from a Past Master of Oakland Lodge in this jurisdiction, who, since his receiving that degree, has met with the misfortune of losing a leg, but he was considered as one of their best men in their jurisdiction, and they were anxious that he should be permitted to receive the degrees, and I conferred them upon him, believing that there was no just reason why his misfortune should exclude him from said degrees, well knowing that there is a diversity of opinion upon this subject, and hoping that it may be fully discussed by the various Committees on Foreign Correspondence so that it may come directly before the General Grand Chapter of the United States and there settled, that all may understand what is Masonic law in such cases.

We sympathise most sincerely with those who have been so unfortunate as to become dismembered from any cause, but we believe that all who are received into our Order should be able to comply strictly with all its requirements. While it would pain us to reject a worthy brother for such a cause, we should deem it no less our duty to do so. We have before fully expressed our opinion upon this question, and have as yet seen no good cause to change it. The report of the Grand Treasurer shows a balance in his hands of \$332 55.

The sum of fifty dollars was appropriated for the relief of the brethren of Louisiana who were suffering from the effects of the great inundation, and a letter expressing sympathy for their trouble and regret for inability to do more financially for their aid, was sent.

We are somewhat surprised that no appeal to our own Grand Chapter for assistance in this emergency has been made. California is never behind, when the wants of the suffering and distressed are made known to her, but in this case no call has been made upon her for sympathy or aid.

The following resolution was adopted, or rather, a former resolution was amended so as to read as follows:—

Resolved, That subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction shall produce their original records of proceedings, or a certified copy of the same, at each annual convocation of the Grand Chapter.

This may do very well in a jurisdiction where there are but six Chapters, but when the number reaches into the hundreds, we should judge that it would be somewhat of an elephant on the Grand Secretary's hands.

We find from the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom the address of the Grand High Priest was referred, that that portion relative to physical qualifications of candidates, met with small favor, as they report as follows:—

Your Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred that portion of the M. E. Grand High Priest's address in reference to conferring the capitular degrees on maimed brothers, beg leave to report, that after careful consideration, your committee are of the opinion that the same law governing ancient craft Masons, should obtain in the highest degrees. Therefore we would recommend that this Grand

Chapter adopt the constitutional rules as published in "Mackey's Book of the Chapter," numbered Section 6, for the future government of the craft in this jurisdiction.

Comp. CLARK, of the committee, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:—

Resolved, That the book of the Chapter known as "Mackey's Book of the Chapter," be adopted as the text book to be used in this jurisdiction, and that the constitutional rules in Section 6 of said book be published in the proceedings of this convocation.

The constitutional rule, applying to the case referred to, is as follows: "No candidate can be permitted to receive the Chapter degrees who is deformed, maimed, or imperfect in his limbs, or whose physical defects are such as to prevent him from conforming literally to all the requirements of the several degrees." The last clause, in our opinion, covers the whole ground and is all we contend for.

Comp. T. McF. PATTON, the able and genial Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence, desiring to retire to private life, and being somewhat persistent in his determination to do so, was immediately *cane*d into submission to the popular will and surrendered at discretion.

We give the following in explanation:—

TESTIMONIAL.

The special Committee appointed to procure a testimonial for Comp. T. McF. PATTON, Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence, expressed their readiness to report. Whereupon, Comp. PATTON was called to the East, when M. E. Grand High Priest, JAMES R. BAYLEY, in a neat and appropriate address, presented to him an elegant cane, beautifully mounted with a solid gold head, ornamented with quartz settings, upon which was engrossed the following:

"Presented by the Grand Chapter, R. A. Masons of Oregon, to T. McF. PATTON Chairman of Committee on Foreign Correspondence, June 6th, 1874."

This beautiful gift, although entirely unexpected, was received by Comp. PATTON, with appropriate remarks, in which he referred to the kind manner which his labors had been received, not only by the companions at home, but abroad. This alone to him was a sufficient reward, and rendered the labors incident to the position both pleasant and agreeable, and that this beautiful token presented by the M. E. Grand High Priest in the presence of the companions assembled in Annual Convocation,—accompanied with such cheerful and encouraging words, was another evidence of the approval of his labors, which would be remembered with pleasure.

We are glad that our companions of Oregon have recognized genuine merit in this graceful and substantial manner. The reports of Comp. PATTON have done much to reflect honor upon the Grand Chapter of which he is one of the brightest ornaments. As a reporter he has few equals and no superiors, and we rejoice that he has consented to remain in harness.

Another excellent Report on Correspondence comes this year from his pen, and although he cannot see some things in the same light that we observe them, and goes for our scalp with the avidity of a true Modoc, yet we are not a bit afraid, and consider the cover of our brain box in no danger. He reviews in his usual racy manner the transactions of twenty-two Grand Chapters, our own for 1873 receiving due attention.

He says: "Comp. McF.'s address was exceedingly brief, and no doubt it contained all that was essential."

In the matter of the removal of a High Priest in this jurisdiction for non-affiliation with a symbolic Lodge, he endorses the action of the Grand High Priest and the report of the committee sustaining him. He says of the report of the committee: "This is plain talk and suits us. Such is our law and no one complains."

He quotes our remarks upon the non-payment of dues, whereupon he whets his scapling knife and goes for us as follows:—

We take it for granted, then, because your law says he *shall* be, that he is thereby suspended without trial. We could cite you, companion, to law just as good as yours, and in our opinion a good deal better, which declares that no one can be deprived of any rights without a trial and conviction had. We agree with our com-

panion as to the punishment, but dissent as to the mode of inflicting it. It is questionable with us whether the simple act of dropping from the roll, without a distinct and formal charge made against the delinquent, is valid, because of certain privileges denied. Comp. WIGGIN is firm on this question of non-affiliation and as a sequence non-payment of dues. He loses no opportunity of giving vent to his feelings and stating the law, but limits his law to his own jurisdiction. The action of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina on this question is endorsed as will be seen by the following.

He then quotes our endorsement of the action of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina in passing a law similar to our own, which, of course, is a dish not suited to his aboriginal tastes. He says he is willing to "join hands with us in many things," but our ideas upon the subject of non-affiliation stir up all the "Injin" in his nature and he utters a war-whoop that would make any one but an old Sagamore feel for his hair. He says:—

We dissent from any such views, and give notice now that we will resist the introduction or even promulgation of any such principle. This may all seem very fair and proper for Comp. WIGGIN, from his stand point, snugly ensconced in a neat office and provided with a comfortable salary of twelve hundred dollars per annum, to argue and defend the doctrine that a Royal Arch Mason should be *declared* suspended because he had not affiliated within a year and paid dues. But from ours, a little further north, where we labor *thirteen* months in the year, and perform an equal amount of labor, furnish our own office rent, pay our own postage and stationery bills—all out of a salary "less than a penny" per annum—we look at this proposition with distrust. But hold! let us arrange our spectacles. Can it be possible that he has changed his base—made a flank movement so soon? Yes, our eyes cannot be deceived; it is the veritable WIGGIN, and the following order is announced preparatory to battle,

He then quotes from our report as follows:—

We have before expressed our opinion somewhat freely upon the question of non-affiliation; we believe it to be the duty of every Mason to be a member of some Lodge. If he cannot afford to pay dues to both Lodge and Chapter, he should honorably withdraw from the Chapter and discharge his obligations to the Lodge. If a man is unable to indulge in the luxuries of life, he should do his best to provide necessaries. The Lodge is the foundation of the whole Masonic Edifice; remove the foundation and what becomes of the superstructure? It is by no means necessary, in order to carry out the great fundamental principles of Masonry, that a man should be a Royal Arch Mason, or if he is one, that he should be a member of a Chapter—that is a matter of taste or convenience; but it is necessary that he should be a member of some Lodge, that he may bear his portion of the labor and responsibility incident to the Masonic relation, and not strive to shield himself beneath the quasi dignity of the so-called higher degrees.

He then swings his war club and thus defies us:—

Yes, you have expressed yourself quite "*freely*;" so freely in fact, that we are at a loss to know whether you are "*for*" or "*fornest*" the doctrine that a Royal Arch Mason shall be *suspended* unless he affiliates and punbles his greenbacks within a year.

Comp. W., the floor is yours, please "rise and explain."

Our position on this question is perfectly plain; we believe in Masons doing their duty, voluntarily if they will, forcibly if they will not. Our remarks relative to the affiliation of Royal Arch Masons apply only to those who, *having the ability*, refuse to perform their share of the labors in which their companions are engaged. If a man is unable to contribute to both Lodge and Chapter, let him make his inability known, and no Chapter will suspend him for not accomplishing that which is out of his power to perform; but, by all means, let him first discharge his duty to the Lodge where all the *real* labor of Masonry is performed, and through whose portals he must first pass before he can reach the outer door of the tabernacle. If he cannot afford the expense incident to his membership in the Chapter, let him at least contribute his *labor* to aid his companions or cease to claim what benefits may accrue to him from the relation. We have no respect for those who enjoy all the rights and privileges of Masonry without contributing anything in return, and we feel impelled to go on the war-path after that tribe on every convenient occasion.

With reference to suspension without trial, we would simply say that, in this jurisdiction, in common with many others, the law makes the non-payment of dues a Masonic offense, and the penalty is suspension, unless, for sufficient cause shown, it may be otherwise directed. What good purpose would be served by going through all the tedious formalities of a trial in such a case? The fact exists that a brother has not paid his dues; if he has any excuse to make, he can present it to the Lodge who will determine upon its validity, and if he has none, he thereby virtually acknowledges his guilt, and all the trials that might be had would not alter the status of his case. He is punished only so long as he defies the law, and he has the power, at any time, to reinstate himself by simply complying with its provisions.

We assert the broad principle that every Mason should be a member of some Lodge, and that every Royal Arch Mason, *who is able*, should be a member of some Chapter and pay dues therein or have his comb cut.

We hope Comp. PATTON does not envy us our *neat office* and *comfortable salary*. He says he works *thirteen* months in a year and performs an equal amount of labor for nothing and finds himself; he forgets that *we* live in a civilized country where twelve calendar months make a year, and that the companions of California believe in employing *only first-class talent and paying for it*. We may feel inclined at times to shirk our labors, but we don't require to be *canned* into the traces, although we confess that we have been *watched* and *badge-red* considerably.

If "Captain Jack" PATTON will leave his hyperborean hunting grounds and pay us a visit, we will place our *neat office* at his disposal and appropriate a portion of our *campum* to make him *comfortable*.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were re-elected. Address: Portland.

PENNSYLVANIA.

From Pennsylvania we receive the records of four Quarterly, two Extra and one Grand Communication. At the first Quarterly Communication held February sixth, 1873, the Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia was formally recognized, and Comp. MICHAEL NISBET, Past High Grand Priest, was received and accredited as the representative of that Grand Body. An "Extra Grand Communication" was held on the twenty-ninth day of September, 1873, for the purpose of dedicating that portion of the new Temple appropriated to the purposes of Royal Arch Masonry. Many distinguished companions from other jurisdictions were present and assisted in the ceremonies, which were very interesting and imposing.

The Annual Communication — as it is termed in this jurisdiction — was held in the city of Philadelphia on the twenty-seventh day of December, 1873, the *M. E.* CHARLES E. MEYER, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* JOHN THOMSON being Grand Secretary. Seventeen subordinate Chapters were represented.

From the address of the Grand High Priest we learn that the wings of the "dark angel" have three times over-shadowed the Council Chamber, and three beloved companions have been called from their labors here below to receive their reward in the "Celestial Chapter above." From the following extract we may perceive some of the benefits arising from an occasional visit to the subordinate Chapters by the Grand Officers:—

January 14. Visited Washington, Washington County, and made a Grand visitation to Chapter No. 150.

This Chapter had never been visited by a Grand Officer, and, as a matter of course, the affairs had not been transacted in a satisfactory manner.

Among irregularities of constant practice were:—

The conferring of the degrees, and then trusting the candidate for the amount of the fee. The degrees were conferred forthwith on presentation of petition, contrary to the Constitution. For many years, by resolution, the dues of all the members were remitted.

I decided that, as the by-laws of the Chapter fix the amount of annual dues, the Chapter could not, by one resolution, remit the dues of all the members. They could, in exceptional cases, remit the dues of a companion, as a case of charity,

and then only on motion duly made and seconded, and adopted by a majority vote, but not otherwise. The action of the Chapter in the case was declared illegal and unmasonic; the Secretary was directed to make out the bills for all dues thus illegally remitted, and, in case of failure of payment, discipline those in arrears. The only means of sustaining the life of a Chapter is by the fees received from candidates, and dues received from members—the latter furnishing the means of existence; and a Chapter has no right to violate its by-laws fixing a certain amount as annual dues.

The Mark Master Mason's degree was conferred by the Grand Scribe, and the Royal Arch exemplified by the Grand High Priest.

With reference to the dedication of the new temple, he says:—

We can congratulate ourselves upon the complete success of the services. Never before was such a sight beheld. The clothing of the officers of the subordinate and Grand Chapters; the beautiful hall, with its hangings of blue, purple, scarlet and white; the organ and chorus; the large attendance of the companions; and above all, the earnest attention given by all, produced such a scene as cannot be conceived by man.

We notice the following decisions, some of which we must confess are not altogether clear to us:—

1. That all documents emanating from the Grand or Subordinate Chapters must have the seal affixed to be valid.
2. That a Chapter cannot be the accuser, and the same time sit in judgment on one of its members.
3. That a Chapter under this jurisdiction cannot grant permission to a Chapter in another jurisdiction to receive a petition from a resident of this jurisdiction.
4. That members of a Chapter in this jurisdiction who are officers of a Chapter under dispensation in another jurisdiction, must sever their connection with one or the other.
5. That a companion receiving the degrees under an assumed name in another jurisdiction, and desires to affiliate with a Chapter in this jurisdiction, under his proper name, must produce proper evidence of his being known under both names, and must receive the endorsement on his dimit that he is the person known there as A B, although known here as C D.
6. That it was not in my power to permit the parade or display in public, in regalia, of a Chapter at a funeral.
7. That a Chapter cannot appear as such outside of the Chapter hall.
8. That a Chapter cannot pass a regulation to charge all the members the same amount of dues, irrespective of the length of time of their membership.
9. That a Chapter can suspend, at any meeting subsequent to December, for non-payment of dues, providing due and timely notice had been given, according to the Constitution.

The second decision bothers us. Suppose a member of a Chapter commits some grossly unmasonic act, not against any particular individual, but reflecting discredit upon the Order, must his Chapter prefer charges against him and have him tried in another Chapter?

In this jurisdiction, in such a case, the Chapter directs one of its officers to prefer charges against the accused; commissioners are then elected who hear and determine upon the testimony adduced, and their finding is recorded as the judgment of the Chapter, subject to the approval of the Grand Chapter.

Again, we are at a loss to understand the fifth decision, relative to the companion who sails under false colors. In most jurisdictions, such an individual would be considered a piratical craft and treated accordingly.

The sixth and seventh will not pass muster with our companions of Massachusetts, and we think they are rather too stringent. We are willing to go so far as to say that a subordinate Chapter ought not to appear in public, as such, without a dispensation from the Grand High Priest, but we can conceive of occasions when no harm would be wrought by Royal Arch Masons appearing in public in regalia; for instance, the laying of corner-stones, dedicating Masonic Halls, or even at funerals.

The newly elected Grand High Priest, Comp. ANDREW ROBBINS, Jr., delivered an interesting and impressive address, from which we extract the following, which will apply in other jurisdictions than Pennsylvania:—

I would refer you, my companions, to the almost criminal neglect of the ballot. This grand old landmark seems to be getting, at least in some of our Chapters, almost obsolete. If we are to take the number of our companions who participate in this duty as a criteria, it is indeed fast fading away.

I have been in not a few Chapters where seventy-five to a hundred members have quietly sat; while out of all those numbers, not more than four or five companions manifested the least inclination to vote or deposit a ballot.

Such a fearful, I may say, monstrous state of apathy, and entire indifference by so many of our members to such a high Masonic duty, is indeed great cause for alarm. For such neglect and supineness must necessarily make the avenues to our Tabernacles an indiscriminate highway to all who would choose to take advantage of such indifference.

When we for a moment consider that the Masonic ballot is the fountain and channel through which all of good and pure, or of bad and evil, flow to us, how terrible the guilt, and fearful the responsibility resting upon those who habitually neglect and treat with indifference this high Masonic duty.

I charge you, my companions, I charge you, Most Excellent High Priest, to see to it, that your robes of office are clear of this great offense. By insisting on a general vote of the members of your Chapter on every applicant who comes before it, and not suffer the duty of a membership of two and three hundred to be performed by one or two companions.

The abuse of the ballot, in my estimation, companions, is not to be feared by us just now, so much as this wholesale neglect by our members.

For I hold to the earnest conviction, so far at least as the purity, permanency and well-being of our Chapters are concerned, that it is better far a good man should be deprived of the enjoyment of our privilege by the abuse of the ballot, however much it should be regretted and deplored, than to suffer one bad man to come among us by its neglect, and by so doing disturb the peace and harmony, and thus mar the pleasure of our communications.

The Report on Correspondence is again from the pen of Comp. WILLIAM J. KELLY, and fully justifies the opinion we formed of him, from his last and first report. He reviews the transactions of only twenty Grand Chapters, the remainder having failed to reach him. He judiciously selects that which he deems of general interest, and is in no wise backward in letting us know what his own opinions are. It affords one pleasure to read such a report, and we hope Comp. KELLY will long continue to hold the position he occupies. California, for 1873, is courteously noticed and liberal quotations made from the address of Comp. NEFF, and from our report of that year. He thus expresses himself upon the subject of special dispensations, in which we fully agree with him:—

The part of the above we object to, is the dispensations that were issued to ballot for candidates without the usual time for inquiry being allowed. Will the time ever come when we shall see the gross inconsistency of allowing applicants to come in to our Chapter without complying most rigidly with all the requirements of our laws and usages?

And again, quoting from the address of Comp. NEFF, relative to the payment of a salary to the Grand Lecturer, he says:—

Our experience of Grand Lecturers is of course limited, but from what is said of them by some jurisdictions who have used them, we should think it would be most beneficial to adopt a system of district deputies, and save considerable money by the operation.

He quotes our remarks relative to requiring membership in the symbolic Lodge as a pre-requisite to membership in the Chapter, upon which he remarks:—

Our practice exactly, except as to paying the amount of dues to some Lodge, as we require them to be actually affiliated, and we concur it is effective.

With reference to non-affiliates, he says:—

Our practice is to prevent them from visiting a Chapter but once during his non-affiliation. We do allow him to visit each Chapter once, the object being to give him an opportunity to judge which one he would prefer. After the one visit, however, he is debarred from further visiting until he affiliates.

With reference to the regret we expressed that Pennsylvania still declined to unite with the General Grand Chapter, he says:—

We regret to give Comp. WIGGIN cause for sorrow, but in our defense, we say we do not think it politic for grand jurisdictions to surrender even a title of their supremacy. We know it is urged by many who are in the General Grand Chapter, that it tends to uniformity of work, etc.; but the testimony of some jurisdictions who are fully represented in their Council, show to our mind a different result. First, they do not seem to pass positive laws; so that in many cases we find the excuse made, that the law was only advisory, not mandatory, etc.; beside, if our mutual obligations will not keep us in the traces, and our duty as Royal Arch Masons make us try and do right, we need not hope for redress, either from the General Grand Chapter or any other body.

We again repeat, however, that from our knowledge of many of the members of that body, it is too respectable to be sneered at; and, indeed, we individually are quite satisfied that nothing but good intentions actuate them, but we do not wish to join.

He quotes our remarks to Tennessee on the representative question, and gracefully weakens as follows:—

We look upon the above as the best reason for representation we have seen yet. Last year we wrote against the system very decidedly. Fortunately, most of it was cut out, and we are glad of it, for we candidly confess we are converted, and feel grateful to Comp. WIGGIN for the reasoning which has wrought our conversion. Show us a good use for any office, and we will defend it; but in these days of excessive vanity, we look with suspicion upon all new-fangled inventions until, as in the above case, we are shown some usefulness in them.

We are glad to know that Comp. KELLY is converted, and can assure him that he is not alone in his conversion. In fact, the system has been generally adopted and may be made the means of doing much good.

Under the head of Georgia he quotes the following from the address of the Grand High Priest:—

As there was no Committee on Foreign Correspondence appointed at our last Convocation, I have not felt it to be my duty to make any report thereon, as I am skeptic as to any value to be derived by our members from the long reports on Foreign Correspondence which appear in our printed proceedings, cumber our minutes and tax our treasury.

Whereupon he divests himself of his number ten Alexanders and goes "Marching through Georgia" as follows:—

We think, Most Excellent Sir, with all due deference to your better judgment, that you make a grievous mistake in your conclusion. You certainly could not have read the reports, or any material part of them, as received by your Grand Chapter, or you never could have hazarded your reputation for good judgment in making that assertion. We grant you there may be some items in some of the reports which may have made you feel squamish, as they have us, particularly in the proceedings of New Jersey: for when we came to look over their proceedings, we find them full of such quotations as the following (see page 13, appendix); "*Est multi fabula plena joci*"; and again, (on p. 29.) "*Oreideus Naso, Neoratio Flaccus, or Marcus T. Cicero, Esq.*" &c., &c. We immediately inquired the profession of the writer, and from a Jersey directory found that Comp. CORSON was a doctor. After pondering for some time, we asked our druggist to let us smell that stuff, and we promise you that for sixty seconds after we felt as you have expressed. But in all seriousness we cannot think you fully reflected upon the subject, and of course it will not be attributed to egotism on our part, for we are not yet in the harness long enough to be considered a reporter; but from our own very, very slight experience in the matter of reading up proceedings, we are decidedly of the conviction that those reports you speak of so lightly, are really the cream of the cocoanut, both to officers and members, and we opine that if you carefully read them, you will say so.

We would gladly follow our companion further in his interesting report, but we must forbear.

The M.: E.: ANDREW ROBBINS, Jr., Grand High Priest, and the R.: E.: JOHN THOMSON, Grand Secretary, were both re-elected. Address: Philadelphia.

RHODE ISLAND.

It is with pleasure we greet our sister, Rhode Island, after a three years' absence from our annual reunions. The pamphlet received contains a record of the transactions at a special Convocation held on the tenth day of October, 1871, and of the

seventy-fourth, seventy-fifth, and seventy-sixth Annual Convocations, held in the city of Providence on March 12, 1872, March 11, 1873, and March 10, 1874. The pamphlet is a very handsome one and reflects credit upon its compiler. It is embellished with steel plate engravings of Past Grand High Priest Comp. THOMAS A. DOYLE, and also of one whose name is a household word in Masonry, Comp. THOMAS SMITH WEBB.

In 1872 the Committee on Work made an elaborate report, recommending many important changes and suggestions, most of which were adopted. The committee were continued until 1874, when they again reported, reiterating their suggestions in the former report and making matters rather more plain than we think is judicious in a printed report.

The Report on Correspondence is again from the pen of the Grand Secretary, Comp. GEORGE H. BURNHAM, and is a well prepared and instructive paper. In his review of California he quotes our remarks upon the non-payment of dues, which he commends as follows: "That is as true as Gospel—every word of it. We have never been a believer in dues—that is, until within a comparatively short time. But our conversion is complete."

We are glad to know that we have converted Comp. BURNHAM to the true faith, and now if we could only persuade him to send us more than one copy of the proceedings of his Grand Chapter, so that our scissors might find play among the good things we find there, we should be satisfied. We cannot cut our only copy and we are therefore debarred from copying many interesting portions of the proceedings for want of time.

The *M. E.* FRANCELLO G. JILLSON was elected Grand High Priest and the *R. E.* GEORGE H. BURNHAM was re-elected Grand Secretary. Address: Providence.

SCOTLAND.

From the valuable and interesting report of Comp. D. A. OGDEN, of New York, we extract the following notice of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland:—

The Annual Reporter for 1872-73, containing a condensed abstract of the proceedings of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland, and the proceedings of the Supreme Committee, by whom most of the ordinary business is transacted, is before us. In looking over the roll of Chapters we find them from every direction—South America, Australia, China, India, Africa, America, Cape of Good Hope, Vancouver's Island, and the Isles of the Sea; thus demonstrating the wide diffusion of Capitular Masonry and the universal character of the institution. Around the grand old land of song and story, the land of Scott and Burns, cluster the great, world-wide, happy family of Free and Accepted Masons. It may be said of this institution, as it has been said of Great Britain, that the sun never sets upon the Lodges and Chapters in which gather the faithful and true. Scotland illustrates this; for turn where you may, some subordinate Chapter pays tribute to her Supreme Grand Chapter.

Connected with the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland there are thirteen active and thirteen dormant Mark Master Lodges. Does not this fact indicate the decay of the Lodges, and would it not be better for this ancient Supreme Grand Chapter to take charge of the Mark degree, and thus dispense with the Lodges which seem to languish, one half being in a dormant state already?

In the records of the proceedings of the Supreme Committee and Supreme Grand Chapter we find the following:—

"The Supreme Chapter took up the report of the committee on the subject of the abolition of the Past Masters' Degree, and the effect of such abolition on Foreign Chapters, when, after some discussion, the report was, upon the motion of Comp. MANN, *G. S. N.*, adopted, and the Supreme Chapter in terms thereof resolved, that while the American working remains as at present, foreign Chapters should be allowed to work what was formerly known as the Past Masters' Degree as a side degree, if they so desired it, in the same manner as the Ark Mariner and Red Cross Degrees are worked; but that should such Chapters have occasion to confer it, they should be bound to instruct their candidates that this degree gives them no right to be considered a Past Master of St. John's Masonry, or to wear any of the badges or insignia of that Order."

The report, which was adopted, is not given in the Reporter; we regret this, for we should have been pleased to see it.

In the proceedings we find an account of the presentation to Comp. CHARLES McDONALDSON, of "a handsome gold jewel, from *Rising Sun* Royal Arch Chapter, No. 129, Shanghai, China." This was a token of regard for a worthy companion, who had been an efficient laborer in the celestial land, in spreading the light and power of Craft Masonry. Sometimes we hear this great people called heathen; but where the light of Masonry shines and its benign influence extends it is a misnomer to call the people heathen, and particularly is this true of that great empire, where the art of living and enjoying life is perhaps as perfectly systematized as in any part of the world.

After the close of the Supreme Grand Chapter, in March, 1873, the members "adjourned" to another apartment, and celebrated the festival of the vernal equinox. We would have liked to have been there and enjoyed the feast of reason and the flow of soul, which was without doubt manifested on the occasion.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The Grand Chapter of South Carolina held its Annual Convocation in the city of Charleston, commencing on the tenth day of February, 1874, the R. E. AUGUSTINE T. SMYTHE, Deputy Grand High Priest, presiding, the R. E. MYER B. MOSES being Grand Secretary. Twenty-eight subordinates were represented.

The Deputy Grand High Priest commences his address with a touching allusion to the death of the lamented Grand High Priest Comp. JAMES BIRNIE, and pays an eloquent and well-deserved tribute to his memory.

The fame of Comp. BIRNIE as a "wise and accomplished Freemason" was by no means confined to his own jurisdiction. His light shone before men with a steady and unshaded brilliancy. Firm, dignified and profound; familiar with Masonic law and usage, as a writer he was ever courteous and just, and, although decided in the expression of his own views, he invariably treated with becoming respect those who might differ from him in opinion. Cut down in the prime of life and in the zenith of his usefulness, Masonry has lost one of its brightest ornaments and staunchest supporters. We join with our brethren of South Carolina in mourning the loss of one whose place it will be hard to fill.

The death of the venerable Past Grand Secretary, Comp. EBENEZER THAYER, is also announced, aged eighty years. He was for many years one of the pillars of Royal Arch Masonry in South Carolina, and occupied the position of Grand Secretary for many years with honor to himself and satisfaction to his companions.

The Deputy Grand High Priest feelingly says of him:—

Like as a shock of corn fully ripe, Past Grand Secretary EBENEZER THAYER on the 23d October last, laid him down and was gathered home. A long, long life could he look back upon a weary, toilsome journey, yet one well spent, bravely travelled.

We all remember the old man who, with his hoary hairs, his bent form, his tottering steps, only a year or so ago went in and out among us, standing at his post of duty as Grand Secretary, which he had so ably filled for many years. How he loved this Grand Chapter! Fondling over it as a mother over the child whom she has nursed and cared for through a long and troubled childhood! And even when the infirmities of age prevented his discharging the active duties of his office, his interest continued as unflagging as of yore; and often would he come to me, as his successor in office, to talk over with me its affairs, and to give me that aid and assistance in the discharge of the manifold duties of the position his long experience so well fitted him to impart.

He recommends that the proceedings of other Grand Chapters, now lying loose in the office of the Grand Secretary, be bound and made the nucleus for a Masonic library. A wise suggestion. These proceedings are daily becoming more valuable, and we are constantly importuned for copies, not only of our own proceedings, but for what spare ones we may have of other jurisdictions.

Representatives were received and accredited from the Grand Chapters of Nova Scotia and Illinois.

From the Finance Committee we have this cheering report:—

The Committee on Finance have made due investigation of the subject matters referred to them, and have the satisfaction to report that the financial condition of the Grand Chapter is in a more healthy state than it has been for many years.

The action taken by the Grand Chapter at its last Convocation to relieve its financial embarrassments, was most opportune and salutary. Instead of unpaid bills and unredeemed pay certificates to delegates accumulating from year to year, the present receipts of the Grand Chapter are sufficient to meet all its liabilities and leave a handsome surplus to defray expenses incurred at the present Convocation.

We rejoice in this return to financial prosperity and hope it will be long ere it is again low water in the treasury. A brief Report on Correspondence was presented by the committee, consisting of Comps. WILMOT G. DEASUSSURE, WM. K. BLAKE, and JAMES A. HOYT, which report was referred to another committee, who reported as follows:—

The Committee to whom was referred the Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, fraternally and respectfully submit the following:—

That this Grand Chapter is indebted to the Chairman and Committee on Foreign Correspondence for a perspicuous and well arranged collation of current Masonic rulings, making an interesting digest of the recent opinions of eminent Masonic authorities.

It appears to this Committee that in general the views expressed in the various Grand Chapters corresponding with this Grand Body accord with our established regulations. Your Committee would, however, call the attention of this Grand Chapter to the following usages, which are dissimilar to ours: In Maine and Texas it appears that, in the absence of the High Priest, King and Scribe, certain past or subordinate officers are allowed to open a Chapter and hold a regular Convocation of the same for dispatch of business; and, in Texas, there is the additional peculiarity, that in balloting upon the application of a candidate for degrees it is in the discretion of the High Priest to admit the votes of visiting Companions who are Royal Arch Masons, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of that State. Your Committee are of opinion that these should not be held as precedents for similar action in this jurisdiction.

In defining the relations between the Capitular and Symbolic Degrees a decided majority of the Grand Chapters has held with us, that affiliation with a Symbolic Lodge is an essential qualification for the enjoyment of the privileges of Royal Arch Masonry. That there should not be complete unanimity in this seems strange, when we consider that the whole Masonic structure is based on the foundation of the first three degrees.

Your Committee, in conclusion, recommend that the Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence be published with the proceedings of this Annual Convocation, for the enlightenment and instruction of the Royal Craft in this jurisdiction.

The Committee on Correspondence in their report review the transactions of twenty-eight Grand Chapters, California, for 1873, being among the number. Each receives a brief but fraternal notice. The report, although considerably *condensed*, is well prepared and interesting.

A committee was appointed to visit Comp. ROBERT S. BRUNS, Past Grand High Priest, who was lying dangerously ill. The Grand High Priest, from the Committee, reported that they had "discharged the duty assigned them, but were unable to see Comp. BRUNS, owing to his extreme illness, he having undergone *fifty-eight* operations and having had no less than *ninety-four* tumors cut from him." We are not surprised to learn, under these circumstances, that Comp. BRUNS died only three days after.

The M. E. AUGUSTINE T. SMYTHE was elected Grand High Priest and the R. E. MYER B. MOSES was reelected Grand Secretary. Address: Sumter.

TEXAS.

We have again succeeded in establishing fraternal relations with Texas. Last year we missed her from our annual gathering and were greatly grieved thereby, but her absence only makes her the more welcome this year.

The twenty-fifth Annual Convocation was held in the City of Houston on the third day of June, 1874, the M. E. H. J. MCBRIDE, Grand High Priest, presiding, the R. E. ROBERT BREWSTER being Grand Secretary. Seventy subordinates were represented.

The Grand High Priest in his Address announces the death of Comp. WILLIAM T. AUSTIN, Past Grand High Priest, and pays the following well-merited tribute to his memory:—

WM. T. AUSTIN, Past Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Texas, and Chairman of the Committee on Work, died in the City of Galveston, on the twenty-fifth day of February, 1874, in the sixty-fifth year of his age. I feel conscious of the fact—and in this feeling I am persuaded that this Grand Body fully participates—that in the death of our much lamented and distinguished companion, society has lost a useful member, the Royal Craft one of its most ardent, zealous and enlightened advocates, and the Commonwealth of Texas one of her oldest, fastest and firmest friends. His life was spent in the promotion of whatever he considered would redound to the welfare of his country, to the good of Masonry, and to the happiness of mankind. He was one of the earliest pioneers that came to Texas, in the darkest and most dreary hour of her history, when the terrible storm clouds of war, and of Mexican barbarity and cruelty, were lowering along her horizon, and which ever and anon, were sweeping down upon her plains with merciless vengeance and with wild and unsparing fury. How well, how nobly, and how grandly, he performed his duty to his country in the days of the Texas Revolution, needs no mention here; it is familiar to every reader of Texas history; and as long as the battles of San Antonio de Bexar, and of San Jacinto, are read or remembered by mankind, so long will the name of Comp. WM. T. AUSTIN, and his illustrious compatriots of that eventful period, be gratefully cherished by the people of Texas, as heroes and patriots, whose struggle in that dark and gloomy period bequeathed to us the blessings and privileges by which we are to-day surrounded, and which we are, on this occasion, permitted to enjoy.

The charter of one subordinate he arrested for dereliction of duty and lack of Masonic zeal.

A large number of questions were propounded and answered. He decides that a companion has the right to object to a visiting companion entering the Chapter of which the objector is a member—that a companion may be a member of more than one Chapter at the same time—that a Chapter may open for work with less than nine members, provided there are visitors enough to make the requisite number, but that in order to ballot upon a petition for affiliation, there must be nine members present and voting, or an election cannot be declared. The singular custom prevails in this jurisdiction of allowing visitors to vote upon applications for degrees, but for affiliation, none but members can vote.

Why the distinction should be made we are at a loss to perceive, unless, as is the case in some jurisdictions, they simply confer the degrees without making the candidate a member of the Chapter, an admirable method of promoting non-affiliation. He also decided that a Master Mason, residing at a point equi-distant from two or more Chapters, may apply for the degrees to either, and the Chapter receiving his petition acquires jurisdiction over him, which jurisdiction it may waive at its pleasure.

The report of the Grand Treasurer shows a healthy balance of \$3,485 11 in hand. The following resolution was adopted:—

Resolved, That all the revenues of this M. E. Grand Chapter, except a sufficient sum to cover current expenses, be paid over to the Grand Lodge, to aid in extinguishing the debt due on the Masonic Temple.

The Grand Chapter of West Virginia was formally recognized and a cordial welcome extended to her.

We are pleased to find that the Grand Chapter of Texas has at last awakened to the importance of reports on correspondence, and an excellent one is presented by Comp. ROBERT M. ELGIN, who ably reviews the transactions of thirty-one Grand Chapters, California, for 1874, included. Comp. ELGIN fully concurs with us in our remarks, under the head of Iowa, relative to the written work. He says:—

We concur fully with Comp. WIGGIN in the following remark, brought out in his review of Iowa, and do not hesitate to say that the promulgation of such a work in our jurisdiction would incur the severest punishment known to the Order:

Under the head of New Jersey he quotes the following from Comp. CORSON's report, relative to the withdrawal of allegiance to the General Grand Chapter by the Grand Chapter of Texas:—

Their vows must weigh but lightly upon the consciences of our Texas companions, if they can so easily violate them. And that Grand Chapter must possess

extraordinary plenary powers if it can grant indulgences to companions from other jurisdictions, enabling them to disregard and disobey obligations which they have solemnly and voluntarily assumed.

To which Comp. ELGIN replies :—

We would simply ask the companion if a member from his jurisdiction, who dimitts and removes to Canada, Nova Scotia or England, remains subject to the control of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, or does he become subject to the Grand Chapter of the country in which he takes up his residence? If he admits that the latter is his status, it is nothing more than our Grand High Priest decided to be the law here. We do not feel disposed to discuss the question as to the right of the Grand Chapter to *secede*. There are those who, in a political point of view, believe we are traitors and deserve to be hanged, and we suppose there are Masons who forget that when the connection was dissolved by this Grand Chapter with the General Grand Chapter that we were living under a Government ("so called," if you please,) that forbid all intercourse with the United States, and was able to punish those who disobeyed it. The Grand Chapter of Texas was originally formed as those of Canada and Nova Scotia—independent of any superior body. After the National Government was merged into that of the United States it yielded to the popular pressure and, dissolving its independent organization, reorganized under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter. The severance was afterward made unavoidable by the political authorities. The General Grand Chapter has recognized it as such by receiving other Grand Chapters back without any question as to the legality of their acts during the separation. Texas has not yet seen fit to reunite, though she has every reason to believe she would be met with hearty welcome from all except Comp. CARSON, who, we suppose, would be unwilling to fraternize with such loose characters.

We will wager our old hat, and get a new one if we lose, that from no one would Texas receive a heartier welcome than from the genial, warm-hearted CORSON (not CARSON, Comp. ELGIN). He stops over once in a while, but his heart is so full of the milk of human kindness that he can't help it, but he is all right in the main. Social, political and Masonic relations having been reestablished with the *United States*, let us hope that Texas will once more cast in her lot with her sisters, and become a member of the "happy family" under the beneficent sway of the General Grand Chapter.

The M.: E.: W. K. McALPIN was elected Grand High Priest and the R.: E.: ROBERT BREWSTER was reelected Grand Secretary. Address: Houston.

VERMONT.

The Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Vermont was held in the city of Burlington on the twelfth day of June, 1874—the M.: E.: JOHN W. CLARK, Grand High Priest presiding, the R.: E.: WM. H. S. WHITCOMB being Grand Secretary. Twenty-two subordinate Chapters were represented.

The Grand High Priest delivered a good address, in which he gives utterance to those high and noble sentiments which characterize the true and consistent Royal Arch Mason. But two questions had been submitted for his decision during the year which he rightly regards as a "gratifying index of the industry, knowledge, and zeal of the Royal Craft of this jurisdiction. The questions referred to were as follows:—

"After a companion has been exalted in a Chapter, can a by-law be enacted which shall deprive him of the privileges of signing the constitution and by-laws to complete his membership?"

My decision was that membership follows the conferring of the degrees, and that any by-law conflicting therewith was unconstitutional and void.

To any inquiry as to whether the name of a companion might be struck off the roll of membership of a subordinate chapter for non-payment of dues, I made the following reply:—

"If a companion shall refuse to pay the dues to his chapter as prescribed by the by-laws he violates his obligation; and, upon proper proof, at a regular convocation and after a due trial, he may be indefinitely suspended at the pleasure of his chapter."

He also decided that "striking the name of a member off the roll, without proper trial and conviction of the offence, is inadmissible."

No measure of general interest was acted upon by the Grand Chapter. The proceedings were exceedingly brief and confined solely to local affairs.

A very excellent Report on Correspondence was presented by Comp. J. M. POLAND and we should have been all the better satisfied with it if California had received a portion of his attention. Our proceedings were regularly mailed to the Grand Secretary and we presume were received by him as we have received no notice of their failure to connect. We hope our remarks last year, relative to stirring up the Committee on Correspondence, have not made our companions so angry that they will not notice us, for we like the report of Comp. POLAND so well that we are glad he has been *stirred up* and hope he will be agitated some more.

There are twenty-five Chapters in this jurisdiction, with an aggregate membership of 1752.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were re-elected. Address: Burlington.

VIRGINIA.

The Grand Chapter of Virginia assembled in Annual Convocation in the city of Richmond on the eleventh day of December, 1873,—the *M. E.* ROBERT E. WITHERS, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E.* JOHN DOVE being Grand Secretary, Twenty-eight subordinate Chapters were represented.

The Grand High Priest in his Address congratulates his companions upon the peaceful and harmonious condition of the jurisdiction. No appeals had been presented, and no grievances complained of. In fact, things are so lovely that he fears the existence of a state of apathy. He says that "Royal Arch Masonry, outside of the cities and larger towns, seems to elicit too little interest." He announces in feeling terms the death of the venerable Past Grand High Priest, Comp. LEVI L. STEVENSON, who for "nearly three score years had obeyed the sound of the gavel, and had himself wielded it in the highest and most honorable positions."

The committee to whom was referred the Address of the Grand High Priest submitted the following sensible report, in which we most heartily concur:—

Your committee does not consider that the fact of there being no increase of Chapters during the past year any evidence of a decline in the spirit or true life of Royal Arch Masonry in this jurisdiction. The multiplication of Chapters is an evil, unless there is more thorough instruction imparted to those who are Arched, and the principles of our Institution more deeply impressed upon them. If the officers of our Chapters could be more thoroughly instructed before allowed to work, if they should be required to pass through the hands of the Grand Lecturer, and not allowed to be installed until they have the certificate of proficiency, the Institution would spread more rapidly and be more useful. And while we desire to see our Grand High Priests, and other members of the Council, visit our Chapters, and, if possible, think they should do so, yet it is not to add increase to Chapters, or the membership of the Order, but to show their interest in the Institution, and by prudent advice and instruction, give efficiency to the moral training of the members, and a spurring of the officers to a more faithful performance of their duty.

Comp. WM. B. ISAACS presents an interesting and readable Report on Correspondence. He departs from the usual alphabetical arrangement and pitches into Wisconsin first, while the District of Columbia brings up the rear. He says in his introduction:—

We are getting tired of the regular alphabetical arrangement of the reports. Just here we would say to our colaborers, that we, like the rest of you, on taking up a proceeding, turn to see what you say about us first, instead of doing as we ought to do, reading the pamphlet through very carefully before getting undeservedly riled over the left, or deservedly puffed up over the right-handed compliments that are paid us, and occasionally discover, to our mortification, the evident want of a realization on the part of some that the writer may possibly have something else to do than to cull the pretty sayings with which their reports abound. Let us try the new arrangement, and take them haphazard.

His notice of each State is brief and pointed, yet courteous and kindly. In his comments he goes straight to the mark, and we have no difficulty in understanding which side of a controversy he is on.

Under the head of North Carolina he says:—

It is very evident, sadly evident, that *something* is wanting among our fraters in the Old North State that will stir up their zeal in Capitular Masonry. What that something may be this deponent saith not, but would ask if, for the prosperity of the Craft, the objectionable Dispensation has not been too freely used.

In his review of Tennessee, he quotes the remarks of the Grand High Priest in favor of biennial sessions, upon which he comments as follows:—

It is true legislation in Capitular Masonry has reached that degree of perfection that Annual Convocations can be considered as hardly necessary. Too much legislation in Masonry, as in politics or religion, may prove injurious to the body politic. New ideas, new dogmas, new restrictions, or the abrogation of old ones, are much in accordance with the spirit of the age. Have we nothing to fear from them? We think so, and yet the yearly mingling of our Companions, from all sections of the State, form bonds binding us together stronger than would bands of steel, and we cannot bear the thought of missing our Annual Conclaves, with their social attractions.

He quotes the following from the Address of Comp. DAVIES:—

But few questions of importance were submitted to me for my decision during the year. Those that were submitted were decided by me in accordance with the usages and customs of this jurisdiction, and to the best of my judgment. All of my official correspondence is now on file in the office of the Grand Secretary.

He then proceeds to interview us as follows:

It is always a source of peculiar gratification to come across sentences such as we extract. It is true, it matters not how well the High Priest of a subordinate Chapter may be informed on questions of law and usage, nor how level his head may be in expounding them, there will always be those to take the opposite, and question the accuracy of the decision, hence the necessity for the frequent interposition of the "powers that be," for harmony's sake, if for nothing else. It is really surprising to learn what wide and apparently irreconcilable differences of opinion exist, even among well informed, or so supposed, Masons, on questions which appear very simple and of easy solution. But our institution has no provision, in law or usage, by which "many men of many minds," can be excluded therefrom, and perhaps it would not be safe to have such a resolution, though it might save Grand High Priests much trouble. We observe that the Grand Chapter, by *resolution*, *remitted* the dues of three several companions, former members of now extinct subordinates, and restoring them, by the same *resolve*, to all the rights and benefits of the Order, in one instance ordered a dimit to be issued. Does not the demise of a Chapter, except in debt, remit all dues? From what will the dimit from the Grand Chapter dimit the applicant? Will it be from membership to the Grand Chapter? If not, can it be from the extinct subordinate? We have always regarded a dimit as evidence, *prima facie*, that the companion was in good standing, and clear on the Treasurer's book at the period of its issuance, to relieve any other Chapter of which he may subsequently become a member, from the assumption of any dues to his former Chapter. Will the remission by the Grand Chapter have that effect? Has the Grand Chapter, in fine, the power to interpose with the family arrangements of a subordinate, even though that subordinate be *Masonically* dead? The Grand Chapter can, under certain well known regulations, issue a diploma, which, in our jurisdiction is taken as *collateral* evidence. It appears to us, the next nearest, geographically, subordinate Chapter to the residence of the party, would have jurisdiction over him and that body, and not the Grand Chapter, the proper tribunal to restore rights and grant dimit.

The questions in the foregoing extract are fully answered by Comp. GOTLEY, and will be found under the head of Missouri.

The Annual Convocation for 1874 was held in the city of Richmond on the seventeenth day of December,—the M.: E.: B. M. HARRIS, Grand High Priest, presiding, the R.: E.: JOHN DOVE being Grand Secretary. Twenty-four chartered Chapters were represented.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is very brief but interesting. From it we learn that peace and harmony prevails throughout the jurisdiction. He says:—

It would, however, have been more satisfactory to myself, and encouraging to those who feel a deep interest in the growth and prosperity of Royal Arch Masonry, if I was able to report any material increase either in individual membership or in the number of Chapters. While it is true that no charters have been surrendered, it is also true that no dispensations have been granted, or even applied for.

This apparent lack of interest and energy may, to some extent, be attributable to the difficulty experienced by Masons living in the country and in the smaller towns, in obtaining the degrees and the instructions necessary to the formation of new Chapters. To obviate this difficulty, I recommend the appointment of District Deputy Grand Lecturers, under such proper regulations and instructions as the Grand Chapter may deem judicious to adopt.

Again the Grand Chapter is called upon to mourn the loss of a Past Grand High Priest—Comp. J. P. LITTLE, of whom it is said: “He was a man whose singular purity of life and exalted character challenged in the community a respect and esteem which is rarely extended to any man”—has ended his earthly labors, and gone to receive his reward. Thus day by day the faithful, good, and true depart from among us; but how great the consolation, when those we mourn as lost, leave to us as a heritage a name unspotted, a reputation pure and unstained!

Would that all our lives might be so spent, that at their close it might be said of us, as of him: “His Masonic brethren pointed with honest pride to his blameless and useful Christian life, as a fitting illustration of the beauty and value of the sublime morality our traditions and lectures inculcate.”

A proposition to establish a Home for the Widows and Orphans of Masons in that jurisdiction is earnestly recommended to the favorable consideration of the companions—a good and noble work, and one which we hope will be abundantly blessed.

We cannot concur with “Old Virginia” in the following resolution:—

Resolved, That it is inexpedient to change the general regulation passed in 1859, to wit: “*Resolved*, That every companion who is a member of a Royal Arch Chapter shall not, and ought not to be excluded from his membership in the Chapter simply because he is not an affiliated Mason.”

The Report on Correspondence is again from the courteous pen of Comp. WILLIAM B. ISAACS, who this time extends the area of his usefulness by ten pages. This is encouraging, and shows that, as the companion progresses, he, like all the rest of us, becomes enamoured of his work, and we yet have great hopes of him as a member of the M. A. S. Of California for 1874, he says:—

We admire the address of Grand High Priest DAVIES. From it we learn that his Grand Chapter had just entered on its third decade, had reached that period in life when it had gone safely through the measles, whooping-cough, passed the gozzels and all other infantile diseases, and was just entering into man's estate, full-fledged, robust, and with a voice that is heard and listened to with respect and admiration all over the world.

He quotes the action of our Grand Chapter relative to restoration after suspension by a symbolic Lodge—upon which he says:—

Which appears to us good reasoning. We think, however, it would have been well for the committee (to avoid complications) to have added to the resolution, “but where action had been taken in the Chapter, any subsequent proceedings of the Lodge would not impart any rights to the delinquent in the Chapter.”

To which we will say, that the addition suggested is implied by the nature of the resolution, and is so understood.

He gives us the following kindly notice:—

The versatile pen of Companion WIGGIN furnishes the Report on Foreign Correspondence in his usual terse and happy manner. A combined attack of “neuralgia, gout, and epizootic” does not appear to have disturbed the equanimity of his temper, nor added a drop of bitterness to a heart evidently overflowing with the milk of human kindness. We hope one of these days to make his personal acquaintance.

To which we respond most heartily “so mote it be.”

Under the head of Alabama, he says: the Report on Correspondence is from the pen of "Comp. FILLIANS." Who the Dickens is he? We think the able reporter for Alabama will scarcely recognize himself under that title. He gets off the following, under the same head, on the "big Bugaboo" which has so severely exercised the bibliographers of the Craft for three years past:—

We regret to find him reproducing *in extenso* the very learned and luminous report of Comp. CHAPMAN, of Massachusetts, on that humbug (we mean no disrespect) the Tetragrammation. It might be made the subject of an interesting discussion in the Chapter, but the types in any establishment in Virginia would "mould into ruins" before the compositor could place them in his stick. For the sake of the Craft, do for God's sake let "the thing" alone.

We advise Comp. ISAACS to read the "Holy Triad" in connection with Comp. CHAPMAN's report, and if that does not give him a confirmed bibliophobia then he can't be bored with a big auger.

The following, under the head of Mississippi, we fully indorse:—

We look upon Capitular Masonry as *higher* in *number* only. The three first Degrees are practical in all the relations of life. A suspension in a Lodge acts, *per se*, throughout the higher in *number*. It is not a rule that works both ways. But a subject for discipline in a Chapter does not necessarily fall to the Lodge for execution, though it would be a saving of time and labor. The Chapter can exercise the right, which is inherent, independently of the Lodge.

We were considerably depressed upon reading the following concluding remarks:—

For several years last past, through the kindness and partiality of the Grand Council, and not from any ability or qualifications of our own, we have been assigned to this duty, and have as often made sad, sad failures. Our own affairs now demand our unceasing, watchful care, and we hope it will be the pleasure of the Grand Council to relieve us. Our intercourse with the "mutuals" has been most pleasant and improving. If we have offended, we beg pardon, and give them our parting blessing.

Our mind, however, was greatly relieved when, tacked on to the report, we discovered the following:—

SUPPLEMENTAL.—The "complimentary but peremptory orders" of the Grand Council, which I hadn't the power to resist, keep me in the "harness" for another year. I am, however, permitted to express my deep sense of regret that such orders have been issued, not only for my own sake and reputation, but for the sake and reputation of the Grand Chapter, and more particularly for the sake and reputation of my co-laborers in this part of our Masonic vineyard. I will, however, do the best I can under the circumstances, and throw myself on the kind forbearance of the "mutuals," begging them to overlook my sins of omission and commission.

We trust the Grand Council will long keep him under orders, and allow him room according to his strength.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were re-elected. Address: Richmond.

WEST VIRGINIA.

The pamphlet before us contains the proceedings of our youngest sister for the years 1872 and 1873, and is a handsome and well-executed piece of work.

The second Annual Convocation was held in the City of Wheeling on the fourteenth day of November, 1872,—all the Grand Officers being present, and six subordinate Chapters were represented. M. E. THOMAS H. LOGAN, Grand High Priest, presided, Comp. O. S. LONG being Grand Secretary.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is confined to matters of local interest. A speck of jurisdictional difficulty had arisen with the Grand Chapter of Virginia, which, however, has since been amicably and happily settled.

Three dispensations were granted for the formation of new Chapters.

The third Annual Convocation was held in the same place on the thirteenth day of November, 1873,—the M. E. THOMAS H. LOGAN, Grand High Priest, presiding, the

R. E. O. S. LONG being Grand Secretary. Every Grand Officer was at his post, and eleven subordinates were represented.

The Address of the Grand High Priest is a brief, but well considered paper. He takes pleasure in acknowledging the kindly recognition extended to them by many of the Grand Chapters, and regrets that recognition should have been withheld by others, because of their failure to recognize the General Grand Chapter of the United States. Upon this subject he remarks as follows :—

A few of the Grand Chapters, while kindly inclined toward us, have hesitated in giving us fraternal recognition because of our failure thus far to recognize the General Grand Chapter of the United States. We regret that this should be a cause of distrust or possible alienation. In justice to our Grand Chapter I may say that the severance of long existing relations and the formation of new ones are matters of no little importance, and should be undertaken only after full consideration. As yet we have not been able fully to adjust our domestic affairs and place our Grand Chapter in complete working order, and we may therefore be excused for our failure to devote much attention to matters beyond our immediate domain. Adhesion to the Grand Chapter of the United States will render necessary some material changes in our regulations and ritual. Hasty action might produce confusion and embarrassment. Feeling the want myself of more information upon the subject, I forbear to make to you any recommendation further than to urge upon you individually the propriety of examining the question for yourselves, so that at a more convenient season you may be able to reach an intelligent conclusion. In the meantime we hope our friends in other jurisdictions will possess their souls in patience and will not fluster our inexperience by their too ardent appeals on one side or the other.

We have no doubt our companions of West Virginia will do as unto them seems right in this matter, and we can afford to leave them to judge for themselves, hoping that the arguments of Companions **DADMON** and **CORSON** may have the effect to bring them to our way of thinking.

An amendment to the Constitution was adopted which we cordially approve and hope to see it adopted by our own Grand Chapter at its next Annual Convocation :—

Change clause 1 of Section 12 so as to read :—

1. The Grand High Priest, King, Scribe, Treasurer and Secretary shall be elected by ballot at each Grand Annual Convocation, and the remaining officers of the Grand Chapter shall be appointed by the Grand Council.

And this we hope to see extended to the subordinate Chapters. The High Priest, King, and Scribe are much better qualified to judge as to who will best fill the subordinate places, than the majority of the members, many of whom make their appearance but once a year, and, remaining long enough to vote for some favorite candidate for office, disappear and are seen no more until the next election.

The members of the Council are interested in procuring the best material to aid them in the work, and will not be likely to appoint any except those who are willing to learn their duty and do it.

The Report on Correspondence by Comp. **O. S. LONG**, the Grand Secretary, is entirely confined to a recital of the action of the various Grand Chapters relative to the recognition of the Grand Chapter of West Virginia, and comments thereon. We hope to hear further from Comp. **LONG** next year, when, with the *status* of his Grand Chapter firmly fixed, he will be able to give some portion of his attention to the affairs of his neighbors. Under the head of Kansas, he fully and completely answers the objections of Comp. **CARR** to the recognition of the new Grand Chapter, and we would give his argument entire, but, the Grand Chapter of West Virginia, having already been recognized by the General Grand Chapter, and thereby placed upon a firm and sound basis, we deem it unnecessary to occupy our space with arguments which are conceded to be sound and correct.

The Grand Chapter of West Virginia has now its destiny in its own hand, and it has our cordial good wishes for its prosperity and success.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were both re-elected. Address : Wheeling.

WISCONSIN.

The Grand Chapter of Wisconsin held its Annual Convocation in the City of Milwaukee, commencing on the seventeenth day of February, 1874.—the *M. E. C. F.* G. COLLINS, Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R. E. W. T.* PALMER being Grand Secretary.

The Grand High Priest delivered an interesting and practical Address, in which he congratulates his companions upon the fact that there is little if any need for legislation, and that harmony and prosperity prevail throughout the jurisdiction. Two dispensations were granted for the formation of new Chapters.

In the matter of official decisions, the Grand High Priest reports a "condition of things almost millennial," he not having been called upon once to lay down the law, or for the performance of any official act save to grant the dispensations aforesaid, and to approve the by-laws of a subordinate. He says: "I deem this the best possible evidence of the perfect adaptation of our Constitution to our wants, and a deserved compliment to the officers of our subordinate Chapters."

Representatives were appointed near the Grand Chapters of Pennsylvania and Kansas.

He is opposed to the use of substitutes, and is satisfied that all their Constitution needs to render it entirely adequate to their wants is to be "let alone." He recommends that their earlier proceedings be reprinted, they having become very rare and difficult to obtain. Forty-two chartered Chapters, and two under dispensation were represented.

The report of the Finance Committee shows a balance in the Treasury of \$3547 21.

The following resolution was adopted:—

Resolved, That a protest against the advancement of a candidate may be made privately to the High Priest, and shall thereupon be entered upon the Chapter records, and shall have the same preventive effect and for the same length of time as a rejection by ballot.

A resolution highly complimentary to the retiring Grand High Priest was adopted, and the Grand Secretary was directed to procure a Past Grand High Priest's jewel to be presented to him at the next Annual Convocation; and *mirabile dictu*, the Grand Secretary was also remembered; for we find the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:—

Resolved, That in consideration of the long, faithful, earnest and reliable manner in which Past Grand Secretary, Excellent WILLIAM T. PALMER, has performed the duties of Secretary of this Grand Chapter during the past fourteen years, and as a mark of the affection and esteem which the companions of this jurisdiction hold for him, and that he may have a suitable souvenir of their kind remembrance: That the *M. E. C. F.* Grand High Priest be directed to procure a Past Grand Secretary's jewel, to be presented to P. G. Secretary W. T. PALMER, at the next Convocation of this Grand Body.

We don't know what a Past Grand Secretary's jewel may be, but we would suggest as a design, a pen of the Corinthian order broken; by it standing a Grand Secretary weeping, his hands impatiently enfolded in the few remaining ringlets of his hair. Motto: *Functus officio*.

We think there must be a screw loose somewhere in the domestic economy of Wisconsin Chapters, judging from the record of suspensions, as we find that one Chapter suspended at one meeting *fifty-three* of its members; another suspended eleven, another seven, and others a lesser number. The Grand Secretary rightly characterizes this as a "*disgraceful record*," and we fully concur.

Comp. J. P. C. CORRILL presents the Report on Correspondence, prepared in his usual excellent style. Such reports are creditable not only to the writer, but to the Grand Body with whom he is connected, and are valuable additions to Masonic literature.

Comp. COTTRILL reviews the transactions of thirty-five Grand Chapters in a manner which cannot fail to interest and instruct. Scissors, with him, are evidently at a discount. He tells what has been done in his own language and comments freely upon it. California, for 1873, receives a kindly and courteous notice. He praises the Address of Grand High Priest NERR and approves his action in removing from office a High Priest who was unaffiliated with a symbolic Lodge. On this subject he says: "Our judgment emphatically is, that the man who lives on the parlor floor, ought to help keep the basement and foundation which supports him in repair."

At the risk of being considered egotistical, we print what he says of our report:—

The Grand Secretary, Comp. WIGGIN, makes a lengthy and valuable report on correspondence. As we read it, we feel the regret that Comp. PILLANS expresses that a report of this kind is read by so few, and as we write, we are somewhat oppressed with the apprehension that perhaps many may regard these documents, prepared so anxiously and with so much expenditure of time and study, as after all a bore. But the "gude wife" and the "bairns" are sleeping—an hour or two less of sleep is naught to us—the work is agreeable and the instruction is great, and so we keep the quill driving, albeit it is of steel, hoping however that we may smooth the point, if not with use, at least with charity. The report under consideration is one of the most carefully prepared and most kindly written that has fallen under our eyes. We cannot enter largely upon it, and can only note a few of the matters to which it refers. An objection after ballot and previous to the conferring of the M. M. degree operates as a negative ballot, but does not so operate after the first degree of the Chapter is conferred; for by a general regulation, after the latter degree is conferred, the objection goes to a committee for investigation. This controverted question is thus split—or rather it is quartered. The objection, we submit, should operate with the same effect and should have the same force all through. The "District" receives a good suggestion relative to the G. G. body, viz., to submit to constituted authority and give our respected parent a rest. The granting of dispensations is reprehended, and upon a novel ground, but one of the best we have seen noted, viz., that upon finding a long list of them, our companion immediately looks forward to see what the Grievance Committee had to report. The sound doctrine is advanced that if a Mason cannot afford to pay both Lodge and Chapter dues, he should withdraw from the Chapter and discharge his obligations to the Lodge; and with all due respect we would change his form of expression to this—let a man provide first for the necessities of life, and then, if he can, he may have the luxuries.

We accept the amendment.

The M.: E.: J. H. EVANS was elected Grand High Priest, and the R.: E.: J. W. WOODHULL was elected Grand Secretary. Address: Berlin.

CANADA.*

The Grand Chapter of Canada held its seventeenth Annual Communication in the city of Ottawa on the fourteenth day of October, 1874,—the M.: E.: Comp. C. D. MACDONELL, Grand Z., presiding, the R.: E.: Comp. J. W. MURTON acting as Grand Scribe E. Forty-four chartered Chapters and five under dispensation were represented at the opening.

We notice among the visitors the names of Comp. ALBERT PIKE, of Arkansas, and Comp. D. B. TRACEY, of Michigan—neither of whom asked leave to *sing a song*.

The reason given for postponing the Convocation of the Grand Chapter from the usual time in August, until October, shows the heart of the Grand Z. to be filled with the true spirit of Masonry, and was a delicate compliment to a faithful and deserving officer. He says:—

Shortly, in fact almost immediately after the close of the last session of the Grand Lodge of Canada, our late R. E. Companion, THOMAS B. HARRIS, Grand Scribe E. of this Chapter, was prostrated by serious illness, and his life despaired of. While in this dangerous state, it was intimated to me by many members of this Grand Chapter that the approaching meeting in August was causing him great uneasiness of mind, and by postponing the same it might be the means—by removing the anxiety—of accelerating his restoration to health. Out of consideration for the eminent services rendered the Royal Craft by our late lamented companion, and of my own

* Received too late for insertion in its proper order.—Grand Sec.

high personal esteem for him, I decided to postpone the meeting of the Grand Chapter until the second Wednesday in October, well aware that in so departing from the constitutional period of assembling, for so desirable a cause, it would not only meet with the unanimous approval of the Grand Chapter, but also be deemed a well merited tribute of consideration towards the suffering companion, and the distress thereby entailed upon his afflicted family.

But alas! the kind offices of those who loved him so dearly were all unavailing, for on the eighteenth day of August, 1874, he was called within the vails of the celestial tabernacle to receive the reward accorded to the true and faithful workman.

The Grand Z. pays an eloquent and touching tribute to his memory, and we most sincerely sympathize with our companions of Canada in the sad loss they have sustained.

The Grand Z. states that during his term of office, no complaint for unmasonic conduct has been laid before him, and that peace and harmony prevail throughout the jurisdiction.

As an evidence of the growth and prosperity of the Order in our sister jurisdiction, we notice that seven dispensations for the formation of new Chapters were issued during the year.

The following correspondence will doubtless prove interesting to Royal Arch Masons in the United States, especially where the parties are known. We know nothing of the merits of the controversy between Companions LARNER and MASON, but we will venture to wager a first class Havana that Comp. LARNER has right on his side.

The Grand Z. says:—

Early in December last I received the following communication from M. E. Companion, NOBLE D. LARNER, the M. E. Grand High Priest of the District of Columbia.

OFFICE OF THE GRAND HIGH PRIEST OF THE GRAND
ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

WASHINGTON, November 26, 1873.

*Companion S. B. Harman, M. E. Grand High Priest
Of the Grand R. A. Chapter of Canada.*

M. E. COMPANION,—The personal relations existing between your Grand Representative near the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia and myself, being of such a character as to prohibit intercourse between him and myself, I am, therefore, much to my regret, compelled to request his commission as a representative be revoked, and that some other companion, whose standing and position in the fraternity will command the respect which a Grand Representative is entitled to, be appointed in his stead. Companion MASON is not a member of our Grand Chapter, and, therefore, only visits the same through courtesy. He has never filled a higher position in a Chapter than that of Secretary, and his interference lately in matters belonging exclusively to members of our Grand Chapter, and other circumstances, not necessary to mention, has made him very obnoxious, not only to myself, but to a very large number of the members of our Grand Chapter. For these, and other reasons which I might mention, I have, after consultation with our Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, and other companions concluded to make this official request of you for the revocation of his commission as your Grand Representative.

With the hope that the fraternal relations at present existing between our two Grand Chapters may continue,

I remain yours, truly and fraternally,
(Signed) NOBLE D. LARNER,

Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter
of the District of Columbia.

P. S.—I would recommend M. E. Companion JOSEPH DANIELS, Past Grand High Priest of our Grand Chapter, as one in every way qualified for the position of your Representative.

(Signed)

N. D. L.
G. H. P.

After carefully considering the request contained in the above I directed the Grand Scribe E. to write the M. E. Grand High Priest of the District of Columbia informing him of my decision. Accordingly on the 4th day of March last, he addressed to him the following communication:—

GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA,
Office of the Grand Scribe E. }
HAMILTON, ONT., March 4th, 1874.

NOBLE D. LARNER, Esq.,
Grand High Priest,
Grand Chapter, District of Columbia.

DEAR SIR AND M. E. COMPANION:—

Circumstances beyond my control have occurred, which have of necessity caused me to put off addressing to you a communication as directed by our M. E. Grand Z. on the 17th January last, on the subject of our representative at the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, which has, I am given to understand, been the subject of some correspondence between yourself and the past and present Grand First Principal Z. of this Grand Chapter.

I have now the honor, under instructions of the M. E. Grand Z., to state, in regard to your desire for the cancelment of the credentials of our representative, R. E. Comp. JOHN E. MASON, at the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, that under ordinary circumstances he would feel himself warranted in exercising the prerogative of his office, by at once canceling the commission of our representative, but after mature consideration, and in the absence of any charge of irregularity or misconduct, on his part, the M. E. Grand Z. does not see his course clear to revoke the deliberate act of one of his predecessors, performed on the best recommendation and subsequently ratified and confirmed by our Grand Chapter in Annual Convocation, and our said representative having been received and recognized by your Grand Chapter.

The M. E. Grand Z. has therefore arrived at the determination of referring the whole matter to Grand Chapter at its next Annual Convocation, to deal with the subject in such manner as in its wisdom it may deem proper.

I have the honor to remain,

Dear Sir and M. E. Companion,

Yours truly and fraternally,

THOMAS B. HARRIS, G. S. E.

Washington, D. of C., U. S. A.

I now leave the matter in your hands to take such action in the premises as to you may seem meet.

The Committee to whom was referred the Address of the Grand Z. report as follows, and their report was adopted:—

Your Committee regret to learn that difficulties of a personal nature have arisen between our representative, near the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia, and the M. E. the Grand H. P. of that jurisdiction, and as the M. E. the G. H. P. has requested the withdrawal of the appointment of R. E. Comp. J. E. MASON, your Committee beg to recommend that although we have no cause of dissatisfaction with Comp. MASON, the Grand Z. be requested, if it shall become necessary, to withdraw his credentials, as we cannot desire to have a representative at any Grand Chapter who is not agreeable to those with whom he comes in contact, and whose presence might impair those kindly feelings which should at all times exist between sister Grand bodies.

The reports of the several Grand Superintendents show a healthy and prosperous condition of the Order throughout the jurisdiction, and peace and harmony reign supreme.

From the following resolution we infer that the organization of a Grand Chapter in Quebec is imminent:—

Resolved, That permission be given to the Chapters in Quebec to meet for the purpose of considering what action, if any, they may deem it desirable to take towards securing the formation of a Grand Chapter for that province, and that the M. E. the Grand Z., be authorized to take such action in the matter as he may consider for the best interests of Royal Arch Masonry.

A very full and excellent Report on Correspondence from the able pen of Comp. HENRY ROBERTSON graces the proceedings. He reviews the transactions of thirty-five Grand Bodies, including the Grand Chapter of Scotland and the Grand Mark

Lodge of England, and his report is one of the most enjoyable among the many good ones which have come to our notice. California, for 1874, receives a good share of his attention. He quotes liberally from the Address of Comp. DAVIES, and from our report of that year, which he is pleased to say is an "exceedingly interesting one."

Under the head of Connecticut, he thus expresses himself upon the objection question:—

In jurisdictions where the ballot is not required to be taken for each degree, the arguments of Comp. LEWIS can have no possible application. As to the "preservation of peace and harmony," that desirable state of things has no stronger advocates for its perpetuation than ourselves, and we agree with all that Comp. LEWIS has said on that subject, but we would confine these very strong precautions to the candidate's first initiation into Masonry. After a man has become a Mason, we are of the opinion that an allowance of an unsupported *objection* to his advancement, will be more destructive of the harmony that should prevail, than his reception of the degrees, to which he has already been declared entitled. Again we say, "allow no objections after a clear ballot except *for cause*, and require them to be followed by a *charge* and *due trial*."

He, in common with most of the reporters, has his shot at GOULEY for his condenser. He says:—

Comp. GOULEY has got ahead of us all this time, but we are much mistaken if our Missouri companions will be satisfied with that sort of an abomination in the future. We naturally took Missouri with the expectation of something good, of course, from GOULEY, but our best feelings were outraged, and our tenderest anticipations were blasted in the bud, by getting hold of an amorphous production, only calculated for the perusal of a professional Dryasdust. The perpetrator of such a practical joke upon his confiding and inoffending brothers of the quill, ought to be—yes—certainly he ought.

We give the conclusion of Comp. ROBERTSON's report, as it pays a well deserved tribute to the memory of a faithful companion, whose death has caused a thrill of sorrow to many hearts without as well as within the jurisdiction of Canada:—

We fear that we have in this review somewhat exceeded the limits usually assigned to this committee, and it may be that we have also taxed somewhat severely the patience of our readers, who have endeavored to follow us in this, our annual stroll through the walks of capitular Masonry, in other jurisdictions. But we have at least tried to present you with a fair summary of the condition of the Royal Craft abroad, and to select from the different proceedings the most interesting matters.

It will be perceived that we, as Royal Arch Masons, have great cause to be gratified at our present state of prosperity, and at the general good feeling and fraternal kindness prevailing among the different Bodies. Such is properly the case, for our institution would lose one of its noblest characteristics, were not its effects to be productive of peace and good will, especially towards those linked with us in one indissoluble chain of friendship and affection.

IN MEMORIAM.

But the saddest words remain to be written, and our loss is yet too recent to be spoken of with composure. Our beloved companion, THOMAS BIRD HARRIS, has passed away, and "the place that knew him once, shall know him no more forever."

To those who knew him (and who of the Craft in Canada did not), it is needless to say anything in his praise, but we cannot close this Report without bearing our humble tribute of love and respect to one so dear to us all. His devotion to Masonry was well known, and, with him, it was indeed a labor of love. During his Masonic career he was always most zealous in the discharge of its duties, ready to give up his time whenever called upon by his brethren, and ready to embark in every work which required his Masonic assistance. The urbanity of his manner, the equanimity of his temper, the cheerfulness of his disposition, were all such as to make the performance of his many Masonic duties peculiarly acceptable to all with whom he came in contact, while his vast fund of Masonic knowledge, and his readiness to impart information, rendered him peculiarly fitted for the positions he occupied.

But it is on those who were privileged with his intimacy that the blow falls with the most telling effect. Their sorrow is indeed poignant, and their regret will be more lasting. His memory will be ever green in our hearts. By remembering his many virtues, we will pay him a tribute, such as Masons owe, to those whom Masons

revere and love. We can do no more to prove how dearly we loved, and how deeply we respected our departed companion.

We can only say, that if Masons wish for an example by which to form their own course, they have but to look to the Masonic career of our revered companion, THOMAS BIRD HARRIS.

We commit his memory to the custody of the Royal Craft, and may peace rest upon his ashes, as honor must ever rest upon his name.

There are sixty-one subordinate Chapters borne upon the Registry, with an aggregate membership of 2774.

The *M.: E.:* JAMES SEYMOUR was elected Grand Z., and the *R.: E.: B. P.* STEPHENS was elected Grand Scribe E. Address: Toronto.

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

The General Grand Chapter held its twenty-second Triennial Convocation in the city of Nashville, Tennessee, commencing on the twenty-fourth day of November, 1874,—the *M.: E.:* JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, General Grand High Priest, presiding, the *R.: E.:* CHRISTOPHER G. FOX being General Grand Secretary. Twenty-four State Grand Chapters were represented. Alabama, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Texas were unrepresented.

The Address of the General Grand High Priest is an able and exceedingly interesting paper, and we wish we had space at our command to publish it entire. He pays a glowing tribute to the memory of the eminent companions who have rested from their labors since the last Convocation, and few jurisdictions have been exempt from the visits of the dark angel.

With reference to Chapters under dispensation, he entertains the same views expressed by us in our Report of 1872. He says:—

Inasmuch as Chapters under dispensation, created by your officers, may exist nearly three years before a charter can be applied for, I earnestly recommend that you adopt specific regulations defining their powers and privileges, and authorizing them to exercise all the powers of chartered Chapters, save the installation of officers.

The law upon this subject seems to have been originally based upon a false assumption of fact—that these bodies are the creatures of the officer issuing the dispensation. It was said that charters were issued only by Grand Lodges, while dispensations were issued by Grand Masters *by virtue of the prerogative of their office*. But all Grand Lodge constitutions expressly authorize the Grand Master to issue dispensations for new Lodges, under certain circumstances. A dispensation by the Grand Master is issued by the authority of the Grand Lodge, as much as a charter ordered by it and signed by him. The idea therefore that a Lodge under dispensation is a mere creature of a Grand Master by virtue of an authority inherent in his office, is a false one; and there is no reason why bodies under dispensation may not be invested with all powers necessary for their convenient operation.

The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom the subject was referred, presented the following resolution, which was adopted, and thus another absurdity has exploded:—

3. *Resolved, as a Regulation*, That the General Grand Chapter hereby vests in its subordinates under dispensation full power of discipline over their members, and the right to exercise all the powers of "chartered" Chapters, save the election and installation of officers.

He recommends what has long been the law in this jurisdiction, viz., that petitioners for a dispensation to form a new Chapter be required to procure their dimitts before organizing under dispensation.

Dispensations had been issued for the formation of new Chapters in the Territories of Colorado, Utah, Washington, and Montana, and in the State of Nevada, which latter has now formed a Grand Chapter.

Difficulties having arisen in *Seattle* Chapter, at Seattle, Washington Territory, its charter was arrested, and the matter was finally referred to the General Grand High Priest with power to restore or arrest the charter as he may deem best for the interests of Royal Arch Masonry. He gives a history of the organization of the General

Grand Chapter, which we consider of sufficient interest to warrant our giving it entire. He says :--

There is so much misapprehension concerning the historical and legal relations of the General Grand Chapter to the State Grand Chapters, that I beg your indulgence a few moments while I give a summary of the history of their organization.

This body is the oldest sovereign Grand Chapter in the world. The Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania was organized earlier, but it was attached to, and under the authority of, the Grand Lodge, and did not become independent for several years.

This body was organized in January, 1798, as the Grand Chapter of the States of New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New York, under the name of the "Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the Northern States of America." It was provided in its original Constitution, that there should be in each State a Deputy Grand Chapter, of which the Grand Chapter should have the superintendence, "with the right of appellate jurisdiction over all their proceedings and determinations, with power to disaffirm and disannul them." It provided the time and place for the formation of the Deputy Grand Chapters of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New York, but retained Vermont and New Hampshire under its own jurisdiction. At the several times and places thus fixed, and by the authority thus given, Deputy Grand Chapters were formed in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New York.

In 1799, the Grand Chapter changed its name to General Grand Chapter, but confined its jurisdiction to the same States. It changed the name of the Deputy Grand Chapters to State Grand Chapters. Vermont was then placed under the jurisdiction of New York, and New Hampshire under that of Massachusetts, until Grand Chapters should be formed in those States. In 1804, a Grand Chapter was formed in Vermont, without the consent of New York; but in 1806 the General Grand Chapter confirmed the action, and recognized the new Grand Chapter and admitted it to representation.

In 1806, the General Grand Chapter changed its name to the "General Grand Chapter of the United States of America," and assumed corresponding jurisdiction. Let it be observed, that at that time the Grand Chapters which had been created by it were the only ones in the country, except the one subordinate to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and probably another which was subordinate in the same manner to the Grand Lodge of Maryland, the General Grand Chapter was the only sovereign and supreme body of Royal Arch Masons in the country. It limited the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapters to the States in which they were located, reserving to itself exclusive jurisdiction to grant dispensations and charters in the other States, but provided for the formation of new Grand Chapters upon the warrant of one of the general Grand officers. This provision for the formation of Grand Chapters has ever since been retained in the Constitution.

In accordance with this provision, the Grand Chapters of Arkansas, California, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey,* Oregon, Tennessee, Texas, and Wisconsin, were formed by authority of the warrant of a general grand officer, which warrant in terms, or substantially, provided that the Grand Chapter to be formed should be "subject to the Constitution and laws of the General Grand Chapter." The reorganization of the Grand Chapter of Vermont in 1849 was by virtue of a similar warrant. The clause providing for retaining the authority of the General Grand Chapter in some of the warrants was very specific. In the case of Texas it was "always provided, however, that such Grand Chapter shall conform to and abide by the Constitution, rules, and edicts of the General Grand Chapter of the United States." The preamble of the original Constitution of the Grand Chapter of Georgia (which was also adopted at its reorganization in 1841) is as follows: "We, the several Chapters of Royal Arch Masons in the State of Georgia, created and established by authority of the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America, by and with the consent of the said General Grand Chapter, have agreed to form a Grand Chapter for the State of Georgia; and being duly represented by our respective High Priests * * * convened * * * pursuant to public notice, and the powers vested in us by the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America * * * do ordain and declare," etc. All the Chapters which took part in forming all these Grand Chapters were created by the General Grand Chapter, except those in Maine, which were created by the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts while Maine was a part of that Commonwealth.

* There was a Grand Chapter in New Jersey before 1824, formed under the authority of the General Grand Chapter, but it became extinct, and was never revived, and the present body was formed as if none had ever existed in that State.

In Alabama, in 1823, a Grand Chapter was formed by Chapters chartered by the General Grand Chapter; no previous warrant was obtained, but the proceedings were ratified by the General Grand High Priest. On investigation, however, by the General Grand Chapter in 1826 it was decided that the proceedings were irregular, and the Grand Chapter not legally formed; and it was recommended that a new Grand Chapter be formed. This decision was acquiesced in, the old organization abandoned, and a new Grand Chapter was formed under the warrant of the General Grand High Priest. It became dormant in 1831, and in 1837 the representatives of the several Chapters met and proceeded "to form a Grand Royal Arch Chapter according to the provisions of the Constitution of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States."

A Grand Chapter was formed in the District of Columbia in 1824 by virtue of a warrant from the General Grand High Priest, and his action was confirmed, and the Grand Chapter recognized by the General Grand Chapter in 1826, and received under its jurisdiction. In 1841, this Grand Chapter had ceased to work, and the Chapters were placed under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Maryland. In 1867, a new Grand Chapter was formed, and became a constituent of the General Grand Chapter.

The Grand Chapter of Florida was formed by two Chapters chartered by the Grand Chapter of Virginia, and one chartered by the Grand Chapter of South Carolina. As the latter was at the time a constituent of this body, this grant of a charter was unauthorized, and gave just cause of complaint; and the grant of the charters by the Grand Chapter of Virginia was, by the terms of our constitution, an invasion of our jurisdiction; but all irregularity has been waived for many years, and the Grand Chapter of Florida been recognized; and all questions have been set at rest forever, by her uniting with her sister Grand Chapters under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter.

The Grand Chapters of Kentucky and Missouri were each formed by three Chapters chartered by the General Grand Chapter, but without any warrant from a general grand officer; the proceedings in Kentucky were approved by two general grand officers (CLINTON and WEBB), and the action in both cases, upon application, was ratified and confirmed by the General Grand Chapter.

As before stated, a Grand Chapter probably existed in Maryland before 1806, but the records have not been preserved; references are made to it in the proceedings of the present Grand Chapter as "a former Grand Royal Arch Chapter." The present Grand Chapter was formed in 1814, and by mutual action of the General Grand Chapter and itself was "admitted under the jurisdiction" of this body "on an equality with the other Grand Chapters," and "subject to the constitution and regulations of said General Grand Chapter."

The Grand Chapter of North Carolina was formed by six Chapters, at least three of which were chartered by the General Grand Chapter, under whose jurisdiction it assumed that it belonged. At its re-organization in 1847, it applied for recognition, which was granted upon condition that it amended its constitution to conform to that of the General Grand Chapter; this was at once done, and its obligations to the General Grand Chapter fully recognized.

The Grand Chapter of Ohio was formed by two Chapters which had existed before 1798—one Chapter chartered by the Grand Chapter of Maryland, and there was another Chapter in the State chartered by the General Grand Chapter. The proceedings were conducted under the advice of THOMAS SMITH WEBB, who, as Deputy General Grand High Priest, approved the formation of the Grand Chapter, and installed its officers; and his action was ratified by the General Grand Chapter.

The Grand Chapter of South Carolina was formed by two Chapters chartered by the General Grand Chapter, and one chartered by the Grand Chapter of New York in 1803, before the jurisdiction of State Grand Chapters was limited to their States. No warrant was obtained in advance, but the proceedings were formally approved by THOMAS SMITH WEBB, General Grand King, and the Grand Chapter was represented in the General Grand Chapter at its next convocation.

Thus it appears that "all the Grand Chapters," except Florida, Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia, "were either created by the General Grand Chapter or formed by Chapters chartered by it and authorized to form a Grand Chapter solely upon the condition of obedience to the constitution and laws of the General Grand Chapter."

The Grand Chapter of Virginia was formed in 1808, after the General Grand Chapter had undertaken to exercise exclusive jurisdiction throughout the country. Consistency would have required it to ignore the Grand Chapter of Virginia, as it did Chapters chartered in other States by the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, but it saw fit not to do so, and has practically recognized that Grand Chapter for many years.

It needs no more, it seems to me, than this historical statement to show that a constituent of this General Grand Chapter has no more right, legal or moral, to throw off its allegiance than any subordinate Chapter has to throw off its allegiance to its Grand Chapter.

He strongly recommends the recognition of the Grand Mark Lodge of England, and the General Grand Chapter adopted a resolution recognizing that Grand Body, but afterwards reconsidered it and the matter was postponed until the next Triennial Convocation, which we consider to be a wise precaution.

The following decisions were rendered and approved by the General Grand Chapter:—

A very large number of questions of Masonic law have been submitted ; in many cases for decision, and in others for an opinion. Some arose in Chapters under our immediate jurisdiction, and others called for a construction of the constitution, or some resolution of the General Grand Chapter. Some of the more important ones I give.

1. **SUBSTITUTES.**—The action of the General Grand Chapter in relation to substitutes is not mandatory, but permissive. A regulation of a Grand Chapter permitting their use, or one prohibiting their use, does not conflict with the resolution of the General Grand Chapter, and subordinate Chapters are bound by such regulation.

2. **QUALIFICATION OF CANDIDATES.**—The General Grand Constitution does not prescribe the qualification of candidates. By the landmarks they must be Master Masons, and therefore such Master Masons as are legally recognized as such by the other Master Masons of the particular jurisdiction. In other words, they must be Master Masons in good standing as such. The meaning of the term "in good standing" is determined by the laws governing Blue Lodges in the particular jurisdiction. If by these laws, an unaffiliated Mason is "in good standing," he is eligible as a candidate, in the absence of any regulation of the State Grand Chapter. But I find nothing in the General Grand Constitution preventing any Grand Chapter from requiring such further qualifications as it deems proper.

3. **EFFECT OF DISCIPLINE BY THE LODGE.**—The Chapter must give to discipline by the Lodge the same effect that it has under the laws of the Grand Lodge, and the Chapter has no authority to inquire into the regularity of the proceedings of the Lodge, but they must be taken as valid until reversed by competent authority. The Chapter has no part or lot in making or fixing the standing of Master Masons; we take them as made by the Blue Lodge, and their standing as fixed by the Blue Lodge. The effect of the suspension of a member of a Chapter by his Lodge for non-payment of dues must be determined by the laws of his Grand Lodge. If the suspension (as in some States) is from membership only, his standing in the Chapter is not affected, in the absence of regulations by his Grand Chapter; but, if the suspension (as in other States) is from all his Masonic rights, he at once loses his standing as a Royal Arch Mason, whatever may be the regulations of his Grand Chapter.

4. **EFFECT OF REVERSAL OF ACTION OF LODGE BY THE GRAND LODGE.**—When the action of a Lodge, in cases of discipline, is reversed or annulled for any reason by competent authority, the party at once regains the same *status* that he had at the commencement of the proceedings, as fully and completely as if none had ever been had.

5. **EFFECT OF RESTORATION BY THE LODGE.**—But when a companion is restored to his Masonic rights by his Lodge, after a legal conviction by it, the settled law is, that he is restored to his rights as a Royal Arch Mason, except membership in his Chapter; though I confess I have never been able to see the propriety of this rule, nor of the exception if the rule is adopted.

When a Lodge expels a member, he loses all his Masonic rights, as fully as if he had never been initiated; consequently he ceases to be a Royal Arch Mason. Now the Lodge may, by restoring him, make him again a Master Mason, as it previously made him a Master Mason, save that the process is different; but I cannot see what authority a Lodge has to make a Royal Arch Mason by restoration, any more than by the original initiation. But if it is held, that the act of the Lodge restores him to all the rights of which the Lodge deprived him, why is membership in the Chapter excepted? The Lodge may refuse to restore him to membership in itself, because it may annex such limitations to the restoration as it sees fit; but the Lodge has no power to annex any limitations to the effect of his restoration in the Chapter.

6. **PAST MASTER'S DEGREE.**—It is not proper for a Chapter to confer the Past Master's Degree upon the Master elect of a symbolic Lodge, who has not received the Mark Degree. As I understand, the General Grand Chapter decided at its last convocation that a Chapter can recognize no other Past Master's Degree than the one conferred by it, and no other person eligible to receive it than a Mark Master Mason.

7. **QUALIFICATIONS OF GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.**—The General Grand Constitution does not provide that a Grand High Priest must be a Past High Priest; but seems to leave it to Grand Chapters to fix the qualifications of their officers.

8. **WHO MAY OPEN A CHAPTER.**—A Chapter cannot properly be opened by a Past High Priest in the absence of the High Priest, King and Scribe. Section 10 of

Article I of our Constitution provides, that "In all cases of the absence of an officer from any body of Masons, instituted or holden by virtue of this constitution, the officer next in rank shall occupy his place, unless, through courtesy, or for other reasons, he should decline in favor of a Past High Priest." The language of this provision embraces Grand Chapters and subordinate Chapters, and in terms seems to authorize the Captain of the Host, or even the Master of the Third Vail to open the Chapter in the absence of all of his superior officers. I cannot believe that such was the intention; but that it was intended to apply only to the officers composing the Council; but if it has a wider meaning, it does not authorize a Past High Priest to open a Chapter, save under the direction of the highest officer present.

9. CHANGE OF PLACE OF MEETING OF GENERAL GRAND CHAPTERS.—The General Grand High Priest has no power to change the *place* of the convocation of the General Grand Chapter fixed by it, and no power to change the *time*, unless there shall be "danger to life or health" in holding the convocation at the appointed time.

This decision was made in consequence of an application of the Grand Chapter of Louisiana, approved by many members of this body.

The General Grand Chapter appreciated the following remarks, and rescinded the resolution of 1871, which has caused oceans of ink to be shed, and called forth much learned discussion among our erudite companions:—

I feel it my duty to state to you that the decision of the General Grand Chapter of 1871, in relation to Ritual, has produced a great degree of dissatisfaction, and that very many companions believe the decision to be erroneous, and in conflict with the practice at the time, and ever since our present system was founded. And I feel assured that the interests of Royal Arch Masonry require that the matter be re-examined. I had intended to discuss the question, and submit the results of my investigations in a confidential address, but upon further reflection, I have deemed it best to call your attention to the subject without expressing my own views, and bespeak for it your deliberate and impassioned consideration and decision.

From the report of the General Grand Secretary we learn that the "Grand Chapters belonging to the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, number thirty-four, with 1750 subordinates, embracing an active membership of about 112,000 companions."

The following resolution was offered by Comp. CASSIDY, of New York:—

Resolved, That every Chapter under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter has sole and exclusive jurisdiction over all its rejected material at all times and places, and that no Chapter be permitted to confer the Capitular Degrees upon a rejected candidate without the consent of the rejecting Chapter.

This resolution was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, who presented the following report, which, much to our surprise, was adopted:—

Your committee also report on the resolution offered by Comp. CASSIDY, of New York, in relation to the jurisdiction of Chapters over rejected material.

Doubts having arisen in reference to the question as to the right of any Chapter to confer the Capitular Degrees upon a candidate previously rejected by any other Chapter, it is declared by this General Grand Chapter, as the true law upon such subject, that no Chapter under this jurisdiction shall confer the Capitular Degrees on any candidate previously regularly rejected by any other Chapter, without first procuring the consent of such rejecting Chapter, provided that such Chapter be in existence.

We are at a loss to discover the wisdom or justice of this piece of legislation. When an article has been rejected and thrown away by one party it is presumed that any one who desires has the right to appropriate it; and we see no good reason why an applicant for the degrees who has been rejected by a Chapter and thereafter removes from its jurisdiction, should not, after a reasonable time has elapsed, have the right to petition the Chapter nearest his place of residence.

Suppose an applicant is rejected by some Chapter in Maine, and ten years thereafter he desires to present his petition to a Chapter in Texas, where he has resided since his rejection; he cannot do so until the consent of the Chapter in Maine has been obtained, the name of which the candidate may have forgotten, and thus he would be debarred, however worthy, from becoming a Royal Arch Mason. The

passage of this law will, we are fully convinced, be the means of doing much injustice, and causing many unnecessary and vexatious delays, besides engendering ill feeling between the Chapter seeking consent and the rejecting Chapter should it choose to withhold it.

In compliance with an invitation extended, the members of the General Grand Chapter visited Mrs. JAMES K. POLK, widow of the late President of the United States, where they were severally introduced, and paid their respects to that distinguished lady.

The General Grand Secretary was directed to cause the proceedings from 1798 to 1856, inclusive, to be copied and stereotyped, and one thousand copies thereof printed for distribution.

The Committee on Jurisprudence, in their report confirming the decisions of the General Grand High Priest, thus express themselves on the substitute question:—

Your committee cannot, however, let the occasion pass without an expression of their opinion in reference to the subject of the second decision (substitutes); that, while the use of substitutes was practiced by all the old Chapters, and our fathers in Masonry walked in that way, we regret that a uniformity could not now be observed in this respect. And we disapprove of the legislation of State Grand Chapters forbidding their use, believing that the whole subject should be left to the several Chapters to use them or not as demanded by the occasion.

The Grand Chapter of Nova Scotia was formally recognized and a cordial greeting extended to her.

A committee was appointed to consider and report at the next triennial Convocation, what are the proper titles of the several officers known to the capitular degrees.

A committee was also appointed, of which Comp. DRUMMOND is Chairman, to revise the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter.

The Committee on Grievances congratulated themselves and the General Grand Chapter that their office had proved a sinecure.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted, the members rising:—

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Grand Chapter be and the same are hereby tendered to M.: E.: JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, for the very able and faithful discharge of the duties devolving upon him as General Grand High Priest during his official term, and for the impartial and fraternal manner in which he has presided over its deliberations at this Triennial Convocation.

A well-merited tribute to an able, faithful, and zealous officer.

The following proposed amendments to the Constitution are to be acted upon at the next Triennial Convocation:—

Resolved, That Section 3, of Article I, of the Constitution, be amended, by adding thereto the following: "And provided further, that all proxies referred to in this section shall be held only by members of the bodies they severally represent."

Resolved, That Sec. 3, of Art. I, of the Constitution, be amended, by inserting between the words "officers" and "shall," the words "or their proxies," so that when amended the last clause of said section will read as follows:—

"*Provided*, That any Chapter under this jurisdiction, in any State, District or Territory where there is no Grand Chapter duly established, shall have a right to appear by its first three officers, or any one or two of them, which officers or their proxies shall collectively have one vote."

Resolved, That Sec. 1, of Art. II, of the Constitution, be amended, by adding thereto the following:—

"*Provided*, also, that State Grand Chapters may admit to membership therein the Past High Priests of the subordinate Chapters in their respective jurisdictions, so long as they may continue members of such Chapters."

Resolved, That Sec. 3, of the Miscellaneous Provisions of the Constitution, be amended, by adding thereto the following: "Provided, however, that the amendment so proposed may be modified in any manner by the General Grand Chapter while the same is before it for consideration. No modification, however, shall be made not germane to the matter contained in the original proposed amendment."

Resolved, That Sec. 3, of the Miscellaneous Provisions of the Constitution, be amended, by inserting after the words "General Grand Chapter," the words "referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence and reported upon by them," so that when amended the said section will read as follows:—

SECTION 3. This Constitution shall not be altered or amended, unless such alteration or amendment be proposed in writing at one regular convocation of the General Grand Chapter, "referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence and reported upon by them," published in the minutes of the proceedings, and at the next regular Convocation receive the approval of two-thirds of the members present.

Resolved, That Section 3 of the Miscellaneous Provisions of the Constitution be stricken out.

Comp. ELBERT H. ENGLISH, Little Rock, Ark., General Grand High Priest.
 Comp. JOHN FRIZZELL, Nashville, Tenn., Deputy General Grand High Priest.
 Comp. ROBERT F. BOWER, Keokuk, Iowa, General Grand King.
 Comp. ALFRED F. CHAPMAN, Boston, Mass., General Grand Scribe.
 Comp. JOHN McCLELLAN, Boston, Mass., General Grand Treasurer.
 Comp. CHRISTOPHER G. FOX, Buffalo, N. Y., General Grand Secretary.
 Comp. NOBLE D. LARNER, Washington, D. C., General Grand Captain of the Host.
 Comp. AUGUSTINE T. SMYTHE, Charleston, S. C., General Grand Royal Arch Captain.

ELECTION OF GRAND ROYAL ARCH CAPTAIN.

Comp. SMYTHE having declined to serve as General Grand Royal Arch Captain, Comp. HENRY BOSTWICK, of Covington, Ky., was chosen to that office.

The next Triennial Convocation will be held in the city of Buffalo, N. Y., on the third Tuesday of September, 1877.

CONCLUSION.

Thus, companions, we close the record of another year. We have selected from the transactions of our sister Grand Chapters such portions as we deemed to be of general interest and presented them with such comments as their nature seemed to demand.

In our examination of the proceedings of other Grand Bodies we have found much to instruct and commend and but little to condemn. Their perusal has afforded us sincere pleasure, not however unqualified with sadness, for the mourning pages so thickly strewn through the various records, tell the sad story of many a loved one whose life work is ended and the memory of whose good deeds is left us as a precious legacy to be carefully treasured in our hearts. To many of us, the year now numbered with the past has been fraught with sadness and sorrow. Since our last report was presented, we too have "passed under the rod" and have drained to the bitter dregs the cup of affliction. Yet we find consolation in the fact, that, although death may wrest from us the objects of our dearest affections, it cannot destroy the memory of their shining virtues, and we are cheered by the thought, that, although dead, they still live in the influence which the bright example of their lives still sheds upon our hearts.

We congratulate you upon the general peace and prosperity which everywhere prevail; from the North to the South, from the borders of the broad Atlantic to our own sunny home upon the shores of the great Pacific, no note of discord mars the general harmony. With slow but certain progress our Order is increasing and sheds the light of its benign teachings wherever civilization leads the way.

Amid this general prosperity, let us not relax our vigilance, but guard well the outer courts of the tabernacle, seeing that no stone is used in the completion of the temple but such as will pass the test of the Master Overseer's square.) To our brother correspondents we are indebted for many tokens of kindly approval and encouragement. Some differences of opinion, relative to matters of law and usage, of course exist; but in the discussion of these differences, we have endeavored to keep within the bounds of courteous argument, and have ever been met in the same fraternal spirit.

We are painfully aware of the shortcomings of this Report, but "such as we have we give unto thee;" and trusting to your good nature to excuse its imperfections, we throw ourself upon your Masonic charity, and promise to do better next time.

All which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,
For the Committee.

Comp. CHARLES MARSH, Past General Grand Scribe, then addressed the Grand Chapter, giving an interesting account of the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter at its last triennial Convocation.

The Grand Lecturer made a verbal report of his official acts during the year, and, on motion, he was instructed to prepare a written report for publication with the proceedings.

The Grand Secretary presented the credentials of Comp. CHARLES MARSH as representative of the Grand Chapters of South Carolina, District of Columbia, and Massachusetts; and, on motion, Comp. MARSH was received and accredited as the representative of those Grand Bodies.

On motion, the Grand Lecturer was requested to exemplify the work in the degree of Mark Master, in *California* Chapter, No. 5, at seven and a half o'clock this evening, and in the Royal Arch degree, to-morrow evening, in the same Chapter and at the same hour.

The Grand Chapter was then called off until two o'clock this afternoon.

In Grand Chapter.

AFTERNOON SESSION, }
Tuesday, April 13th, 1875. }

The Grand Chapter was called on at two o'clock, the Grand High Priest presiding.

The minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

The Grand High Priest announced the following committees:—

On Finances:

Comp. Joseph Miller Litchfield,
" Benjamin Wilcox Barnes,
" Louis Wellendorff,
" John Whitton Surface,
" James Ross.

On Returns:

Comp. Charles Louis Wiggin,
" George Tuttle Grimes,
" Ambrose Hall Cowden,
" John Dodd Skinner,
" Charles John Hellwig.

On Charters :

Comp. Charles Fitzgerald Irwin,
 " Samuel Calvert Foy,
 " Ralph Ellis,
 " George Fayette Mallett,
 " Nathan Weston Spaulding.

On Grievances :

Comp. Alexander Gurdon Abell,
 " Jacob Hart Neff,
 " Andrew Jackson Broder,
 " Adoniram Judson Loomis,
 " Thomas Cross Pockman.

On By-Laws :

Comp. Theodore Edward Smith,
 " Melvyn Sims Gardner,
 " James Martin Rodgers,
 " Adolphus Leigh Fitzgerald,
 " Stephen Kirby Nurse.

On Payment of Delegates :

Comp. Charles Marsh,
 " George Heirn Gilbert,
 " John Francis Snow,
 " Thomas Callow,
 " William Monroe Petrie.

The Grand Secretary presented his Annual Report, as follows :—

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of California: —

The undersigned respectfully presents the following report of the transactions of his office for the year ending January thirty-first, 1875 :—

As soon as possible after the close of the last Annual Convocation, the proceedings thereat were printed and the usual number of copies was distributed to the Chapters, to the Grand and Past Grand Officers, and transmitted to all the Grand Chapters with which we are in communication.

By order of the Grand High Priest, dispensations were issued for the formation of three new Chapters, viz. : August fifth, 1874, to *Lassen* Chapter, at Susanville, Lassen County; January thirtieth, 1875, to *Dixon* Chapter, at Dixon, Solano County, and March eighteenth, 1875, to *Modesto* Chapter, at Modesto, Stanislaus County.

The petitions for these dispensations, with the accompanying papers required by the Constitution, the Record Books, By-Laws and returned Dispensations of *Lassen* and *Dixon* Chapters, together with petitions for their perpetuation by Charters, are herewith submitted.

The books and papers of *Modesto* Chapter have not as yet been received.

The following special dispensations have been issued by order of the Grand High Priest, viz. : December third, 1874, to *Naval* Chapter, No. 35, to ballot upon the application of a candidate without the usual reference to a committee, and February fifth, 1875, to *Sacramento* Chapter, No. 3, to re-ballot upon the petition of a rejected candidate.

By resolution of the Grand Chapter at its last Annual Convocation, the sum of three thousand dollars was ordered to be invested in stock of the Masonic Hall Association, and in pursuance of that resolution three hundred shares of said stock was purchased at its par value—ten dollars per share—the lowest price at which it could be obtained, and which has proved to be a profitable transaction, as the Grand Chapter could, if it desired, realize to-day a large advance upon its investment.

The proceedings of this Annual Convocation will complete the fourth volume of the Grand Chapter proceedings, and the undersigned would respectfully recommend that the Grand Secretary be authorized to have one hundred volumes bound in the usual manner, to be disposed of at the price prescribed by the Grand Chapter.

The following is a statement of the financial transactions of the Grand Secretary for the past year :—

The Grand Secretary in account with the Grand Chapter of California, for the year ending January 31st, 1875.

RECEIPTS.

<i>San Francisco Chapter, No. 1, dues in full to January 31st, 1875.....</i>	<i>\$334 50</i>
<i>Sonora</i> " " 2, " " " "	<i>82 50</i>
<i>Sacramento</i> " " 3, " " " "	<i>305 50</i>
<i>California</i> " " 5, " " " "	<i>436 00</i>
<i>Nevada</i> " " 6, " " " "	<i>99 00</i>
<i>Shasta</i> " " 9, " " " "	<i>66 00</i>
<i>Sutter</i> " " 11, " " " "	<i>157 50</i>
<i>Washington</i> " " 13, " " " "	<i>249 00</i>
<i>Howard</i> " " 14, " " " "	<i>189 00</i>
<i>Cyrus</i> " " 15, " " " "	<i>81 00</i>
<i>St. James</i> " " 16, " " " "	<i>70 50</i>
<i>Libanus</i> " " 17, " " " "	<i>39 00</i>
<i>Grass Valley</i> " " 18, " " " "	<i>117 50</i>
<i>Trinity</i> " " 19, " " " "	<i>46 50</i>
<i>Franklin</i> " " 20, " " " "	<i>91 50</i>
<i>Sierra</i> " " 21, " " " "	<i>102 50</i>
<i>Petaluma</i> " " 22, " " " "	<i>72 50</i>
<i>Oliver</i> " " 23, " " " "	<i>46 50</i>
<i>La Fayette</i> " " 24, " " " "	<i>27 00</i>
<i>Georgetown</i> " " 25, " " " "	<i>61 00</i>
<i>Oakland</i> " " 26, " " " "	<i>104 50</i>
<i>Delta</i> " " 27, " " " "	<i>47 00</i>
<i>Stockton</i> " " 28, " " " "	<i>153 50</i>
<i>Monzanita</i> " " 29, " " " "	<i>114 00</i>
<i>Napa</i> " " 30, " " " "	<i>69 50</i>
<i>Martinez</i> " " 31, " " " "	<i>51 00</i>
<i>Los Angeles</i> " " 33, " " " "	<i>84 50</i>
<i>Alturas</i> " " 34, " " " "	<i>49 50</i>
<i>Naval</i> " " 35, " " " "	<i>185 50</i>
<i>Alameda</i> " " 36, " " " "	<i>150 50</i>
<i>Siloam</i> " " 37, " " " "	<i>68 00</i>
<i>Santa Cruz</i> " " 38, " " " "	<i>60 00</i>
<i>Donner</i> " " 39, " " " "	<i>64 50</i>
<i>Red Bluff</i> " " 40, " " " "	<i>81 00</i>
<i>Temple</i> " " 41, " " " "	<i>75 00</i>
<i>Chico</i> " " 42, " " " "	<i>21 50</i>
<i>Solano</i> " " 43, " " " "	<i>91 50</i>
<i>Visalia</i> " " 44, " " " "	<i>62 00</i>
<i>Santa Rosa</i> " " 45, " " " "	<i>98 00</i>
<i>Woodland</i> " " 46, " " " "	<i>148 50</i>
<i>Lassen</i> " U. D., fee for dispensation	<i>75 00</i>
<i>Dixon</i> " " " " " "	<i>75 00</i>
<i>Modesto</i> " " " " " "	<i>75 00</i>
<i>Two special dispensations.....</i>	<i>10 00</i>
<i>Sixteen diplomas, at \$2 00.....</i>	<i>32 00</i>

Making a total of.....\$4821 00

All which has been paid to the Grand Treasurer, as per his receipt herewith submitted.

The books, vouchers for orders drawn upon the Grand Treasurer, letter-books, and papers of the Grand Secretary's office are also presented for examination.
All which is respectfully submitted.

CHAS. LOUIS WIGGIN,
Grand Secretary.

Which report was referred to the Committee on Finances.

The Grand Treasurer presented his Annual Report, as follows:—

DR.		<i>The Grand Treasurer in account with the Grand Chapter of California.</i>		CR.
1874.				
April 14.	To balance in the treasury this date,....		\$5593 03	
April 14.	By paid delegates in attendance at Annual Convocation, as per pay roll,...			\$1027 10
" 14.	" Grand Officers,			82 90
" 14.	" Rent, Grand Secretary's office, to Dec. 31, 1874,			300 00
" 14.	" Grand Secretary's salary for April,.....			100 00
" 17.	" Mount Carmel Chapter, U. D., fee returned,...			90 00
" 18.	" Grand Guard,			27 50
" 29.	" For 300 shares Masonic Hall Stock,			3000 00
May 4.	" Grand Secretary, for expenses Grand Secretary's office,.....			50 00
" 12.	" Grand Organist,			25 00
" 12.	" For washing aprons,.....			4 00
June 15.	" For printing G. C. Proceedings,.....			636 16
" 15.	" Grand Secretary, expenses Grand Secretary's office,			50 00
July 1.	" Grand Secretary, salary for May and June,....			200 00
Aug. 1.	" Grand Secretary, salary for July,.....			100 00
	Balance due late Treasurer,.....		99 63	
SAN FRANCISCO, April 13th, 1875.			\$5692 66	\$5692 66

H. T. GRAVES,
For J. B. SCOTCHLER,
Late Grand Treasurer.

DR.		The Grand Treasurer in account with the Grand Chapter of California.		CR.
1875.				
April 13.	To cash received from Comp. Chas. L. Wiggin, Grand Secretary,.....			\$4821 00
April 13.	By paid Grand Secretary, salary for August, voucher No. 14,			\$100 00
" 13.	"	Grand Secretary, salary for Sept., No. 15,		100 00
" 13.	"	"	" Oct., No. 16,.....	100 00
" 13.	"	"	" Nov., No. 17,.....	100 00
" 13.	"	"	" Dec., No. 18,.....	100 00
" 13.	"	"	" Jan., No. 19,.....	100 00
" 13.	"	"	" Feb., No. 20,.....	100 00
" 13.	"	"	" Mar., No. 21,.....	100 00
" 13.	"	Alex. G. Abell, rent of Grand Secretary's office to Dec. 31st, 1875, voucher No. 22,		300 00
		Balance cash on hand,		3721 00
				<hr/>
				\$4821 00
				<hr/>
				\$4821 00

The undersigned having been appointed by the Grand High Priest as Grand Treasurer upon the death of our late companion, J. B. SCOTCHLER, has received the books and vouchers of the late Grand Treasurer, from the executors of his estate, together with certificates for 450 shares of Stock of the Masonic Hall Association, 800 shares of which were purchased soon after the close of the last session of the Grand Chapter, upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee, and in accordance with a resolution of the Grand Chapter. From the books and vouchers which have come into the hands of the undersigned, it appears that our late Grand Treasurer had overpaid his account to the extent of ninety-nine dollars and sixty-three cents (\$99 63), which amount should be refunded to the estate of our deceased companion without delay.

All which is respectfully submitted.

H. T. GRAVES,
Grand Treasurer.

Which report was referred to the Committee on Finances.

Comp. HENRY SAYRE ORME, from the special committee to whom was referred the Address of the Grand High Priest, presented the following report:—

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California:—

Your committee, to whom was referred the able Address of the M.: E.: Grand High Priest, beg leave to report that they have carefully considered the same and desire to express their unqualified approval of the sentiments therein expressed, and of the recommendations submitted.

We join with him in congratulating the Royal Craft in this jurisdiction upon the harmony and prosperity with which an all-wise Providence has blessed us, and in gratefully acknowledging the good gifts He has so bountifully bestowed upon us.

We recommend that the several subjects alluded to be referred as follows:—

To the Committee on Jurisprudence, so much thereof as refers to the granting of special dispensations, and to amending Art. XVI, Sec. 1, of the Constitution, relative to election of officers.

To the Committee on Charters, so much thereof as refers to the granting of dispensations to form new Chapters.

So much thereof as refers to districting the State and the appointment of inspectors, to a special committee of five, and so much thereof as refers to the death of Past Grand High Priest JOHN WILLIAM HARVILLE, and Grand Treasurer JOSEPH BONAPARTE SCOTCHLER, to a special committee of three.

We recommend that the action of the M.: E.: Grand High Priest in the matter of the complaint of *Sierra* Chapter, No. 21, against *Alameda* Chapter, No. 36, in the appointment of Comp. HIRAM THROOP GRAVES as Grand Treasurer, and in the appointment of Comp. EDWARD GOELLER as representative of this Grand Chapter near the Grand Chapter of New Jersey, be approved by this Grand Chapter.

All which is respectfully submitted.

HENRY SAYRE ORME,
WILLIAM THOMPSON LUTHER,
GEORGE ALEXANDER MCKENZIE, } *Committee.*

Which report was concurred in.

The Grand High Priest announced the appointment of the following special committees :—

<i>On Death of Comps. Harville and Scotchler:....</i>	{	Comp. Alex. Gurdon Abell, " George Heirn Gilbert, " James Martin Rodgers.
<i>On Districting State and Appointing Inspectors:</i>	{	Comp. James Lawrence English, " Wiley James Tinnin, " Charles Marsh, " John Kirkpatrick, " Thomas Hubbard Caswell.
<i>To fill Vacancy in Committee on Jurisprudence :..</i>		Comp. George Tuttle Grimes.

The Grand Secretary presented the appeal of Comp. WILLIAM H. HILL from the action of *Los Angeles* Chapter, No. 33, in sentencing him to be reprimanded; which was referred to the Committee on Grievances.

Comp. CHARLES FITZGERALD IRWIN presented the case of Comp. EDWARD E. EVANS, suspended for non-payment of dues by the late *El Dorado* Chapter, No. 4, and asked that he be reinstated and a certificate to that effect be given him by the Grand Secretary; which request was referred to the Committee on Finances.

On motion of Comp. ALEXANDER GURDON ABELL, the action of the Grand Chapter in morning session, requesting the Grand Lecturer to exemplify the work in the Royal Arch degree to-morrow evening, was rescinded, and the use of the hall was tendered to the Council of the Order of High Priests.

The Grand Chapter was then called off until ten o'clock to-morrow.

In Grand Chapter.

MORNING SESSION,
Wednesday, April 14th, A. I. 2405. }

The Grand Chapter was called on at ten o'clock, the Deputy Grand High Priest presiding.

• The minutes of the session of yesterday afternoon were read and approved.

Comp. WILLIAM THOMAS REYNOLDS, from the Committee on Jurisprudence, presented the following report :—

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California: —

Your Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred that portion of the Address of the M.: E.: Grand High Priest relative to the dispensations granted by him to *Sacramento* Chapter, No. 2, to rebalot upon the petition of a rejected applicant for the degrees, and to *Naval* Chapter, No. 35, to ballot for a candidate without the usual reference of his petition to a committee, beg leave to report that they fully concur with the M.: E.: Grand High Priest in the reasons assigned by him for granting said dispensations, and recommend that his action be approved by this Grand Chapter.

Comp. WILLIAM SEWALL WELLS, from the same committee, presented the following report:—

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California:—

Your committee, to whom was referred that portion of the Address of the Grand High Priest relating to the election of officers in subordinate Chapters, have duly considered the same, and, fully concurring in the views therein expressed, propose the following amendment to the Constitution:—

Amend Section 1, of Article XIV, so as to read as follows:—

“The elective officers of each Chapter shall consist of the High Priest, King, Scribe, Treasurer, and Secretary, who shall be chosen by ballot at the stated meeting next preceding the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist, shall be installed as soon thereafter as practicable, and shall hold their respective offices until their successors shall have been duly elected and installed. All other officers (except the Guard, who shall be appointed by the High Priest,) shall be appointed by the Council upon their installation, and shall be installed as soon thereafter as practicable, and shall hold their respective offices until their successors shall have been duly appointed and installed. . A majority of all votes cast shall be necessary for a choice.”

And though not within the strict limits of the duty assigned to them, your committee, believing it eminently proper that the provisions of the Constitution in this respect should harmonize as nearly as possible in respect to this Grand Body and its subordinates, have agreed to propose a further amendment, which is as follows:—

Amend Section 1, of Article VI, of the Constitution, to read as follows:—

“The elective officers of the Grand Chapter shall consist of the Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, Grand Treasurer, and Grand Secretary, who shall be chosen by ballot at each Annual Communication, shall be installed before the close thereof, and shall hold their respective offices until their successors are elected and installed. A majority of all the votes cast shall be necessary for a choice. All other officers except the Grand Guard, (who shall be appointed by the Grand High Priest) shall be appointed by the Grand Council upon their installation, and shall be installed forthwith, and shall hold their respective offices until their successors are appointed and installed.”

These amendments your committee recommend be adopted.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM T. REYNOLDS,	} Committee.
GEORGE T. GRIMES,	
CHARLES MARSH,	
HENRY S. ORME,	
WILLIAM S. WELLS,	

Which reports were unanimously concurred in.

Comp. CHARLES FITZGERALD IRWIN, from the Committee on Charters, presented the following report:—

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California :—

Your Committee on Charters, to whom were referred the books and papers relative to *Lassen* Chapter, U. D., at Susanville, Lassen County, *Dixon* Chapter, U. D., at Dixon, Solano County, and *Modesto* Chapter, U. D., at Modesto, Stanislaus County, have carefully examined the records of the two Chapters first named and find them kept in strict accordance with the requirements of the Constitution. *Modesto* Chapter, having received its dispensation only four weeks since, has presented no books for examination.

We therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :—

Resolved, That charters be granted to *Lassen* and *Dixon* Chapters, and that they be numbered in accordance with the date of their dispensations.

Resolved, That the dispensation to *Modesto* Chapter be continued until the next Annual Convocation.

All which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES F. IRWIN,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
SAMUEL C. FOY,		
RALPH ELLIS,		
GEORGE FAYETTE MALLETT,		
NATHAN WESTON SPAULDING,		

Which report was received and concurred in, and the resolutions accompanying it were adopted.

Comp. JOSEPH MILLER LITCHFIELD, from the Committee on Finances, presented the following reports :—

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California :—

Your Committee on Finances beg leave to report that they have examined the accounts, books, and vouchers of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, and find them to be in every respect correct.

The receipts for the fiscal year ending January 31st, 1875, were as follows :—

Balance in hands of Treasurer at date of last report,.....	\$5593 03
Dues from subordinate Chapters,.....	4554 00
Dispensations to form new Chapters,.....	225 00
Two special dispensations,.....	10 00
Sixteen diplomas,.....	32 00

Total,.....	\$10,414 03
From Comp. J. B. SCOTCHLER, late Grand Treasurer, overdraft,.....	99 63

Total,.....	\$10,513 66
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Which has been expended as follows :

For expenses of delegates at Annual Convocation, 1874.....	\$1027 10
For expenses of Grand Officers, 1874,.....	82 90
For rent of Grand Secretary's office, Jan. 1st, 1874, to Dec. 31st, 1875,....	600 00
For fee returned to <i>Mount Carmel</i> Chapter, as per resolution of Grand Chapter,.....	90 00
To Grand Guard for services and sundries,.....	31 50
For three hundred shares Masonic Hall stock,.....	3000 00
For expenses of Grand Secretary's office,.....	100 00
To Grand Organist,.....	25 00
For printing proceedings Grand Chapter,.....	636 16
For salary of Grand Secretary,.....	1200 00
Balance in Treasury,.....	3721 00
Total,.....	\$10,513 66

Your committee recommend that the following appropriations be made for the current year :—

For printing proceedings Grand Chapter,.....	\$ 700 00
For expenses of Delegates and Grand Officers,.....	1200 00
For salary of Grand Secretary,.....	1200 00
For expenses Grand Secretary's Office,.....	100 00
For Grand Guard,.....	25 00
For Grand Organist,.....	25 00
For overdraft on late Grand Treasurer, ...	99 63
	<hr/>
	\$3349 63
To widow of Comp. HARVILLE,.....	500 00
	<hr/>
Total,.....	\$3849 09

In conclusion, your committee think that both your Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary are deserving of great credit for the neat and systematic manner in which their books have been kept.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JOSEPH M. LITCHFIELD, J. W. SURFACE, B. W. BARNES, L. WELLENDORFF, JAMES ROSS,	}	Committee.
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To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California :—

Your committee, to whom was referred the matter of the restoration of Comp. EDWARD H. EVANS, who was suspended for non-payment of dues by the late *El Dorado* Chapter, No. 4, respectfully beg leave to report that they have had the matter under careful consideration, and, after inquiring fully into all the circumstances of the case, are of the opinion that he should be restored. We therefore submit the following resolution and recommend its adoption :—

Resolved, That Comp. EDWARD H. EVANS be and he is hereby restored to all the rights and privileges of a Royal Arch Mason, and that the Grand Secretary be instructed to issue to him the customary dimit.

All which is respectfully submitted.

J. M. LITCHFIELD, J. W. SURFACE, B. W. BARNES, L. WELLENDORFF, JAMES ROSS,	}	Committee.
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Which reports were concurred in and the accompanying resolution was adopted.

Comp. CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, from the Committee on Returns, presented the following report :—

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California :—

The undersigned respectfully report that returns from all the Chapters except *Calaveras* Chapter, No. 12, have been received, and although in some instances errors have occurred, yet they have, in all cases, been corrected by the various Secretaries when called to their notice.

The dues of each are set opposite their respective names.

		Gen. Fund.	Rep. Fund.	Total
San Francisco, No. 1,	1,	\$259 00	\$ 75 50	\$334 50
Sonora,	" 2,	59 00	23 50	82 50
Sacramento,	" 3,	225 50	80 00	305 50
California,	" 5,	311 00	125 00	436 00
Nevada,	" 6,	69 00	30 00	99 00
Benicia,	" 7,	34 00	13 50	47 50
Shasta,	" 9,	44 00	22 00	66 00
Sutter,	" 11,	123 00	34 50	157 50
Washington,	" 13,	193 00	56 00	249 00
Howard,	" 14,	141 00	48 00	189 00
Cyrus,	" 15,	59 00	22 50	81 50
Saint James,	" 16,	51 00	19 50	70 50
Libanus,	" 17,	26 00	13 00	39 00
Grass Valley,	" 18,	79 00	38 50	117 50
Trinity,	" 19,	37 00	9 50	46 50
Franklin,	" 20,	69 00	22 50	91 50
Sierra,	" 21,	79 00	23 50	102 50
Petaluma,	" 22,	52 00	20 50	72 50
Oliver,	" 23,	31 00	15 50	46 50
La Fayette,	" 24,	18 00	9 00	27 00
Georgetown,	" 25,	42 00	19 00	61 00
Oakland,	" 26,	73 00	31 50	104 00
Delta,	" 27,	35 00	12 00	47 00
Stockton,	" 28,	112 00	41 50	153 50
Manzanita,	" 29,	84 00	30 00	114 00
Napa,	" 30,	52 50	17 00	69 50
Martinez,	" 31,	35 00	16 00	51 00
Los Angeles,	" 33,	57 00	27 50	84 50
Alturas,	" 34,	33 00	16 50	49 50
Naval,	" 35,	145 00	40 50	185 50
Alameda,	" 36,	108 00	42 50	150 50
Siloam,	" 37,	50 00	18 00	68 00
Santa Cruz,	" 38,	44 00	16 00	60 00
Donner,	" 39,	46 00	18 50	64 50
Red Bluff,	" 40,	62 00	19 00	81 00
Temple,	" 41,	58 00	17 00	75 00
Chico,	" 42,	91 00	30 50	121 50
Solano,	" 43,	72 00	19 50	91 50
Visalia,	" 44,	46 00	16 00	62 00
Santa Rosa,	" 45,	77 00	21 00	98 00
Woodland,	" 46,	121 00	27 50	148 50
Making a total of.....		\$3403 00	\$1198 50	\$4601 50

All which is respectfully submitted.

CHAS. LOUIS WIGGIN,
GEO. T. GRIMES,
CHAS. J. HELLWIG,
J. D. SKINNER,
A. H. COWDEN,

}

Committee.

Comp. THEODORE EDWARD SMITH, from the Committee on By-Laws, presented the following report :--

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of California :—

Your committee, to whom were referred the amendments to the By-Laws of *Franklin* Chapter, No. 20; *Georgetown* Chapter, No. 25; *Delta* Chapter, No. 27; *Alameda* Chapter, No. 36; *Chico* Chapter, No. 42, and *Santa Rosa* Chapter, No. 45, approved by the M. E. Grand High Priest, beg leave to report, that they have carefully examined the same, and find they relate principally to time of meetings, fees and dues, and are in conformity with the Constitution of the Grand Chapter. We therefore recommend that they be adopted.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

THEODORE E. SMITH, M. S. GARDNER, STEPHEN K. NURSE, JAMES MARTIN RODGERS, A. L. FITZGERALD,	}	Committee.
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Which report was concurred in.

Comp. ALEX. GURDON ABELL, from the Committee on Grievances, presented the following report :—

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of California :—

Your committee, to whom was referred the transcript of the trial of Comp. WILLIAM H. HILL, by *Los Angeles* Chapter, No. 33, together with the appeal of said companion from the decision of a commission of that Body, which sentenced him to be reprimanded for an alleged "improper revelation of the proceedings" of said Chapter, have carefully examined the papers submitted, and present the following :

1st. There was no "improper" revelation of any proceedings of *Los Angeles* Chapter, as charged;

2d. The charge presented was frivolous and should not have been entertained by the High Priest of *Los Angeles* Chapter; and

3d. The commission of *Los Angeles* Chapter erred in finding Comp. HILL guilty of an improper revelation of its proceedings.

Your committee therefore offer the following resolution and recommend its adoption :

Resolved, That the action of *Los Angeles* Chapter, No. 33, in sentencing Comp. W. H. HILL to be reprimanded for an alleged improper revelation of the proceedings of that body, be, and hereby is reversed and set aside, and that all further proceedings in the case be dismissed.

All which is respectfully submitted by

ALEX. G. ABELL, A. J. LOOMIS, T. C. POCKMAN, A. H. BRODER, J. H. NEFF,	}	Committee.
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Which report was concurred in and the resolution accompanying it was adopted.

Comp. JAMES LAWRENCE ENGLISH, from the special committee to whom was referred that portion of the Address of the M. E. Grand High Priest relative to districting the State and appointing inspectors, presented the following report :—

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of California :—

Your committee, to whom was referred that portion of the Address of the M. E. Grand High Priest recommending "that the State be divided into districts and an Inspector be appointed for each," in accordance with the plan adopted by the Grand Lodge, have had the same under consideration and respectfully report—

That the number of Chapters within our jurisdiction is so small that we can see no necessity whatever for such cumbrous machinery. The object aimed at by regulation No. 12 can easily be attained without it; for there are in all portions of the State companions to be found who are known by our Grand Lecturer to be well qualified not only to instruct in the work and lectures, but to judge as to the competency of others, and from them or by their assistance, the necessary certificate can readily be obtained. Your committee therefore ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES LAWRENCE ENGLISH, W. J. TINNIN, JOHN KIRKPATRICK, CHARLES MARSH, T. H. CASWELL,	}	Committee.
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Which report was concurred in and the committee discharged.

Comp. ALEX. GURDON ABELL, from the special committee to whom was referred that portion of the Address of the *M. E.* Grand High Priest relative to the death of Comps. HARVILLE and SCOTCHLER, presented the following report:—

To the M. E. Grand Chapter of California:—

Your committee, to whom was referred that portion of the Address of the Grand High Priest which announced the mournful intelligence that we had been parted for all time from two of our best loved companions, JOSEPH B. SCOTCHLER and JOHN W. HARVILLE, can have little to add to that which has so well and truthfully been said regarding them by your chief officer.

Companion SCOTCHLER was a man whose unswerving integrity, teeming brain, keen power of observation, active business habits, and indomitable will must ever, as it ever did, command respect and admiration; and his bright and cheerful disposition, generosity of character, genial and kindly manner, and large-hearted liberality, both in opinion and in recognition of calls for aid to the distressed and destitute, insured the esteem and affectionate regard of all who knew him.

Companion HARVILLE was a man of different mould, but not less to be honored and remembered. Of quiet nature, industrious habits, unblemished reputation, and charitable disposition, which last he had little means to exhibit save through his gratuitous attendance in his professional capacity upon the poor and unfriended, he ever held and deserved the friendship and esteem of all with whom he came in contact.

Further words could not express the feeling of our great loss, nor are pages of eulogy necessary to embalm in our memory the recollection of those good and true Masons who have thus gone before us; and your committee therefore only add their hearty concurrence in the recommendation of the Grand High Priest that a memorial page be given in the printed proceedings of this Convocation to the memory of each of our departed companions.

All which is respectfully submitted.

ALEX. G. ABELL, GEORGE H. GILBERT, JAMES M. RODGERS,	}	Committee.
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On motion of Comp. THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL, those delegates who were absent on the first day of the session but present on the second were excused.

Comp. CHARLES MARSH, from the special committee upon the payment of delegates, presented the following report:—

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California:—

Your committee, to whom was referred the apportionment of the Representative Fund, have performed the duty assigned them, and recommend that the following amounts be allowed the delegates of the Chapters represented :—

<i>San Francisco,</i>	No. 1,	\$ 6 00	<i>Oakland,</i>	No. 26,	6 50
<i>Sonora,</i>	" 2,	29 00	<i>Delta,</i>	" 27,	20 00
<i>Sacramento,</i>	" 3,	16 00	<i>Stockton,</i>	" 28,	13 00
<i>California,</i>	" 5,	6 00	<i>Manzanita,</i>	" 29,	36 00
<i>Nevada,</i>	" 6,	31 00	<i>Napa,</i>	" 30,	10 00
<i>Benicia,</i>	" 7,	8 00	<i>Martinez,</i>	" 31,	8 50
<i>Shasta,</i>	" 9,	42 00	<i>Los Angeles,</i>	" 33,	59 00
<i>Sutter,</i>	" 11,	27 00	<i>Alturas,</i>	" 34,	66 00
<i>Washington,</i>	" 13,	21 00	<i>Naval,</i>	" 35,	8 00
<i>Howard,</i>	" 14,	10 00	<i>Alameda,</i>	" 36,	6 50
<i>Cyrus,</i>	" 15,	82 50	<i>Siloam,</i>	" 37,	23 00
<i>Saint James,</i>	" 16,	27 00	<i>Santa Cruz,</i>	" 38,	19 00
<i>Libanus,</i>	" 17,	31 00	<i>Red Bluff,</i>	" 40,	27 00
<i>Grass Valley,</i>	" 18,	31 00	<i>Temple,</i>	" 41,	18 00
<i>Trinity,</i>	" 19,	46 50	<i>Chico,</i>	" 42,	27 00
<i>Franklin,</i>	" 20,	25 00	<i>Solano,</i>	" 43,	10 50
<i>Sierra,</i>	" 21,	60 00	<i>Visalia,</i>	" 44,	43 00
<i>Petaluma,</i>	" 22,	8 00	<i>Santa Rosa,</i>	" 45,	10 00
<i>Oliver,</i>	" 23,	31 00	<i>Woodland,</i>	" 46,	16 00
<i>La Fayette,</i>	" 24,	40 00	<i>Lassen,</i>	U. D.,	72 00
<i>Georgetown,</i>	" 25,	32 00	<i>Dixon,</i>	U. D.,	14 00
					\$1123 00

And that the following be allowed the Grand Officers in attendance :—

Grand High Priest,....	\$20 00	Grand Captain of the Host,.....	6 50
Deputy Grand High Priest,.....	6 00	Grand Lecturer,.....	31 00
Grand Scribe,.....	10 00		
			<hr/>
			\$73 50
			<hr/>
			\$1196 50

All which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES MARSH,
GEORGE H. GILBERT,
JOHN F. SNOW,
THOMAS CALLOW,
WILLIAM M. PETRIE, } *Committee.*

The Grand Chapter was then called off until two o'clock this afternoon.

In Grand Chapter.

AFTERNOON SESSION,
Wednesday, April 14th, A. I. 2405.

The Grand Chapter was called on at two o'clock, the Grand High Priest presiding.

The minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

Comp. LEONIDAS E. PRATT feelingly alluded to the deaths of Companions HARVILLE and SCOTCHLER, and, stating that the family of the first named was left in straightened circumstances, moved that a contribution be taken up for their relief, which motion was unanimously adopted, and the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars was at once contributed by the members present.

Comp. JACOB HART NEFF then offered the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the sum of five hundred dollars be appropriated from the funds of the Grand Chapter for the relief of the widow and children of our late Past Grand High Priest, Comp. JOHN WILLIAM HARVILLE.

Which resolution, under the regulation, was referred to the Committee on Finances.

Comp. BENJAMIN WILCOX BARNES, from the Committee on Finances, at once presented the following report:—

To the M.: E.: Grand Chapter of California:—

Your Committee on Finances, to whom was referred the resolution proposing to appropriate the sum of five hundred dollars for the relief of the widow and children of our late Past Grand High Priest, Comp. JOHN W. HARVILLE, respectfully report back the resolution and recommend its adoption.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOSEPH M. LITCHFIELD, BENJAMIN WILCOX BARNES, JOHN W. SURFACE, LOUIS WELLENDORFF, JAMES ROSS,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
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Which report was concurred in and the resolution was unanimously adopted.

The hour for the special order—the election of Grand Officers—having arrived, the Grand High Priest appointed Comps. HENRY SAYRE ORME and THOMAS CROSS POCKMAN as tellers, and the Grand Chapter proceeded to ballot, with the following result:—

- The M.: E.: WILLIAM THOMAS REYNOLDS was elected Grand High Priest ;
 “ R.: E.: ALEXANDER GURDON ABELL was elected Deputy Grand High Priest ;
 “ R.: E.: HENRY HAY KNAPP was elected Grand King ;
 “ R.: E.: NATHAN WESTON SPAULDING was elected Grand Scribe ;
 “ R.: E.: HIRAM THEROOF GRAVES was elected Grand Treasurer ;
 “ R.: E.: CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN was re-elected Grand Secretary.

The Grand High Priest announced the following appointments for the ensuing year, to wit:—

- As Grand Captain of the Host, Comp. WILEY JAMES TINNIN ;
 “ Grand Royal Arch Captain, Comp. HENRY SAYRE ORME ;
 “ Grand Chaplain, Comp. SAMUEL GRAVES ;
 “ Grand Lecturer, Comp. THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL ;
 “ Grand Organist, Comp. SAMUEL DAVID MAYER ;
 “ Grand Guard, Comp. IRA COLBURN ROOT.

The newly elected and appointed Grand Officers were then duly installed in their respective stations by the *M.: E.:* THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL, Past Grand High Priest, assisted by the *M.: E.:* ADOLPHUS HOLLUB, Past Grand High Priest, as master of ceremonies.

The Grand High Priest announced the appointment of the following standing committees for the ensuing year:—

On Jurisprudence :

Comp. James Lawrence English,
“ Charles Marsh,
“ Jacob Hart Neff,
“ George Tuttle Grimes,
“ William Alexander January.

On Correspondence :

Comp. Charles Louis Wiggin,
“ Carnot Courtland Mason,
“ Charles Fitzgerald Irwin,
“ John Whitton Surface,
“ Richard Munt.

On motion of Comp. ISAAC SUTVENE TITUS, Past Grand High Priest WILLIAM ALEXANDER JANUARY was requested to sit for his portrait, and the Grand Secretary was instructed to have it hung—when finished—in the gallery of portraits of Past Grand High Priests.

The business of the Grand Chapter being all completed, the minutes of the afternoon session were read and approved, and after prayer by the Grand Chaplain, and appropriate music by the choir, the Grand Chapter of California was closed in *Ample Form*.

WILLIAM THOMAS REYNOLDS,

Grand High Priest.

ATTEST:

CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,
Grand Secretary.

This Mourning Page,

BY ORDER OF THE

MOST EXCELLENT GRAND CHAPTER

OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

IS GIVEN TO THE

Memory of our lamented Companion

Joseph Bonaparte Scotchler,

Who was born in Boston, Massachusetts, on the seventh day of
May, A. D. 1831,

AND

Who died in the city of Oakland, California, on the tenth day of October,
A. D. 1874, aged forty-three years.

HE HAD BEEN

MASTER OF OAKLAND LODGE, No. 188,

High Priest of Alameda Chapter, No. 36,

Commander of California Commandery, No. 1,

AND WAS, AT THE TIME OF HIS DEATH,

Grand Treasurer of the Grand Chapter of California.

An amiable and courteous gentleman,
A true and zealous Mason,
By his kindly and benevolent disposition,
And by his upright and honorable walk in life,
He had won and deserved
The love and esteem of all who knew him.

This Mourning Page,

BY ORDER OF THE

MOST EXCELLENT GRAND CHAPTER

OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

IS GIVEN TO THE

Memory of our lamented Companion,

John William Garville,

Who died in the city of San Francisco, California, on the second day of
March, 1875, aged fifty years.

HE HAD BEEN

MASTER OF RISING STAR LODGE, No. 83,

HIGH PRIEST OF OLIVER CHAPTER, No. 23,

Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge,

AND

Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter.

A true and faithful Craftsman,

He has gone to carry up his work for inspection.

GENERAL REGULATIONS.

1. The Degree of Past Master must be conferred upon all candidates who have previously had the degree conferred upon them in a convocation of Past Masters, by virtue of an election to preside over a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.

2. All the Chapters under this jurisdiction are required, in the conferring of degrees, to conform to the ritual adopted by the Grand Chapter, at its Special Convocation in September, 1855.

3. Every Mark Master attached to a Chapter under this jurisdiction must, within six months after his admission, select his mark, and record the same in a Book of Marks, kept by the Chapter for that purpose; and it is made the special duty of the Secretary of each Chapter, to see that this regulation is complied with.

4. The term "nearest Chapter," used in the Constitution, means the nearest by geographical measurement.

5. No Masonic communication shall be held with a Royal Arch Mason who stands suspended as a Master Mason, for any cause.

6. Each Chapter under this jurisdiction shall pay, in addition to its annual dues, the sum of one dollar for each Royal Arch Mason borne upon its roll at the date of its annual report, which additional assessment shall be used as a fund to defray the actual expenses of one delegate from each Chapter represented at the annual convocations of the Grand Chapter, the same to be apportioned by a special committee appointed for that purpose.

7. Whenever two or more Chapters exist in any city or town within this jurisdiction, it shall be the duty of each of such Chapters to notify the other or others existing in the same place of all applications presented to it for the degrees.

8. That the Grand High Priest be requested to appoint a Grand Lecturer, who will be authorized to teach and instruct the subordinate Chapters in conformity with the ritual adopted by this Grand Chapter at its Special Convocation in September, 1855.

9. When, after an election of an applicant to receive the Chapter degrees, and he has received the Mark degree, an objection to his advancement is made at any time by a member, such objection shall be referred to a committee, with power to inquire into the cause thereof, who shall at the next stated meeting (unless further time be given) report thereon; and upon the reception of such report, if no cause for the objection has been assigned, or if the cause assigned be, in the opinion of two-thirds of the members present, not a valid and Masonic one, the Chapter may confer the degree in the same manner as if no objection had been made.

10. No petition for the degrees, or application for membership, shall be received by any Chapter within this jurisdiction, unless it be signed with the full name or names of the petitioner or applicant; and, in the annual reports of the subordinate Chapters, the given name or names of every member or others upon their rolls, shall be given in full.

11. The provisions of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of the State of California shall be, in all essential respects, where there is no conflict between it and the Constitution of this Grand Chapter, the rules and regulations by which the action of the subordinate Chapters of this jurisdiction shall be governed.

12. From and after the first day of December, 1874, no High Priest of a Chapter under this jurisdiction shall be installed, unless he shall present to the installing officer a certificate from the Grand Lecturer, or some companion known by the Grand Lecturer to be skilled in the work, that he is qualified to properly confer all the Chapter degrees and deliver the lectures thereunto appertaining; and the installing officer shall forward such certificate to the Grand Secretary.

13. The limit of physical qualifications to be required of a candidate for the degrees conferred by a Royal Arch Chapter under this jurisdiction, shall be, simply, that he be enabled to conform strictly to all which the ritual in those degrees makes necessary.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE XIV.

SECTION 1. The elective officers of each Chapter shall consist of the High Priest, King, Scribe, Treasurer, and Secretary, who shall be chosen by ballot at the stated meeting next preceding the Anniversary of Saint John the Evangelist; shall be installed as soon thereafter as practicable, and shall hold their respective offices until their successors shall have been duly elected and installed. All other officers (except the Guard, who shall be appointed by the High Priest,) shall be appointed by the Council upon their installation, and shall be installed as soon thereafter as practicable, and shall hold their respective offices until their successors shall have been duly appointed and installed. A majority of all votes cast shall be necessary for a choice.

ARTICLE VI.

SECTION 1. The elective officers of the Grand Chapter shall consist of the Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, Grand Treasurer, and Grand Secretary, who shall be chosen by ballot at each Annual Communication, shall be installed before the close thereof, and shall hold their respective offices until their successors are elected and installed. A majority of all the votes cast shall be necessary for a choice. All other officers except the Grand Guard, (who shall be appointed by the Grand High Priest) shall be appointed by the Grand Council upon their installation, and shall be installed forthwith, and shall hold their respective offices until their successors are appointed and installed.

RETURNS
OF THE
SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS
UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE
GRAND CHAPTER OF CALIFORNIA,
A. I. 2403.

SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER, No. 1.

San Francisco, San Francisco County.

Stated Meetings, first and third Monday in each month.

OFFICERS :

Samuel Sternheim, <i>High Priest</i> ,	Joseph Getz, <i>Master of 3d Vail</i> ,
Simon Baum, <i>King</i> ,	James Henry Madison, <i>Master 2d Vail</i> ,
Henry Edwards, <i>Scribe</i> ,	H'y Cheever Newhall, <i>Master 1st Vail</i> ,
Edw'd Taylor Anthony, <i>Capt. of the Host</i> ,	Joseph Clement, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Alfred Rising, <i>Principal Sojourner</i> ,	Henry Lyon Cohen, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Henry Wangenheim, <i>Royal Arch Captain</i> ,	Theodore Edward Smith, <i>Organist</i> ,
Ira Colburn Root (of California, No. 5,) <i>Guard</i> .	

Past High Priests:

John Dunbar Creigh,	Martin John Burke,	Stewart Menzies,
Adolphus Hollub,	John Rudolphe Jarboe,	Theodore Edward Smith,
Louis Cohn,	Milton Hills Myrick,	Samuel Sternheim.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Anderson, Thomas	Bryan, Thomas	Craig, Peter
Arnold, Benjamin Franklin	Bullock, Frank Dyer	Cressy, Albert
Behrendt, Herman	Burns, Henry Jameson	Curry, Nathaniel
Berggren, August	Caro, Samuel	Curry, Francis Isaac
Bergson, Ole	Carson, James Gilmore	Davis, Henry Lamens
Bilty, Theodore George	Carpenter, Augustine Dyer	Doane, Sharon Pratt
Black, Henry M.	Christy, Robert Francis	Dreyfous, Benjamin
Brandenstein, Meyer	Clinch, Charles Godfrey	Einstein, Morris
Bradbury, Wm. Blackstone	Cohen, Martin	Eisenberg, Julius
Bosworth, Henry Martyn	Cohen, Simon	Emanuel, Emanuel
Browell, Jeremiah	Coggswell, Jas. LaFayette	Esberg, Mendel
Bryan, William	Craig, James	Ewing, Charles Grey

Farquharson, David	Jacoby, Augustus	Poly, Louis
Farran, Charles James	Jordon, Dennis	Prag, Martin
Fisher, Henry James	Kahlman, Solomon	Rawson, Julius Addison
Flatau, Lewis	Kenitzer, Henry	Richards, Charles Wesley
Foorman, Samuel	Kittredge, Jonathan	Ritter, Charles August
Frank, Emanuel Max	Kohn, Isaac	Robinson, Cornel's Preston
Franz, Bernhard	Lauden, Martin Kuttner	Robitscheck, Herman
Frapoli, Battisto	Leviston, George	Rosenbaum, Joseph
Fried, Ignatius S.	Levy, Jacob	Rosenbaum, Julius
Friedberg, Morris T.	Levy, Julius	Rosenbaum, Moses
Friedlander, Moritz	Levinsky, Mark	Saalburg, William
Fuller, Andrew	Manheim, Isaac	Samuels, David
Gay, John Gilmore	Manzur, Lonson Martin	Schinefeld, Jacob
Gerhow, Frederick	McAlester, Wm. Frederick	Schweitzer, Morris
Getz, Louis	McDonald, Robert	Schweitzer, Jacob
Getz, Solomon	McLeod, Andrew Jackson	Saulman, August
Ghirardelli, Domingo, Jr.	Meyer, Charles	Sawyer, Lorenzo
Giacomini, Giovanni D.	Michaels, Aaron W.	Scharlin, John Aaron
Giambini, Natale	Mohrhardt, Philip Fred'k	Schmidt, Anton
Gilberts, Edward	Moraghan, Michael Bolan	Schweitzer, John
Gordon, James Edward	Mosgrove, Samuel	Solomon, Albert
Greenberg, Samuel Henry	Newbauer, Herman Wolf	Steffani, Camillo
Greenberg, Henry Sampson	Newburger, Gustavus	Stuart, William Adams
Gruenberg, Max	Newfield, Marcus	Sweet, Solomon
Haight, Henry Huntley	Newhall, Henry Mayo	Treat, George
Hanson, Henry Sorenson	Newman, Isaac	Triest, Bernhard
Harazthy, Arpad	Nicolaysen, Frank	Voight, Christian
Harris, Daniel	Nutsen, Charles A.	Von Aspern, John
Hartmeyer, Lewis Sebast'n	O'Neil, Robert	Waters, Charles
Hawes, Elisha	Parker, John H.	Williams, Henry
Herzo, John	Pearson, Henry Haven	Wormser, Louis
Huntoon, Isaac Davenport	Phillips, Wm. Armstrong	Wurkheim, Morris—151.

MARK MASTERS :

Gerstenberg, Henry W.	Hayden, Charles B.	Wedekind, George L.—3.
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WITHDRAWN:

Laronche, Antoine	Sumner, William Britnell	Zinn, Henry —4.
Sumner, Frank Wood		

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Heald, Charles Byron	Woolley, Lell Hawley	Wood, Andrew Bunker
Hiller, Frederick	Walton, Nelson Collins, Jr.	—5.

DIED:

Kehoe, John—1.

SONORA CHAPTER No. 2.**Sonora, Tuolumne County.***Stated Meetings, Wednesday of or next preceding Full Moon.***OFFICERS :**

Alvin Bacon Preston, <i>High Priest,</i>	Solomon Benas, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Gideon Wing, <i>King,</i>	Archibald Patterson, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
James Bell, <i>Scribe,</i>	Edward Keil, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Wm. Davis Newton, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Charles Edward Lang, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Peter Klein, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Edwin Aldrich Rodgers, <i>Secretary,</i>
Wm. Gustave Rudorff, <i>Royal Arch Capt.</i>	Francis Anthony Prassa, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Francis Anthony Prassa,	Frederick Faxon,	Edward Skinner,
Alvin Bacon Preston,	William Davis Newton,	William Henry Ryan,
Isaac Newton McCulloch,	Stephen Wing,	Edwin Aldrich Rodgers.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Andross, Moses Chamberl'n	Fosterling, Louis	Oppenheimer, Benjamin
Bacon, Martin	Fuller, James Monroe	Parsons, Edmond
Barlow, Abraham	Harris, Charles Parsons	Reed, Abner
Bartlett, Daniel Francis	Klein, Conrad	Severing, Henry
Bush, George Carroll	Lampson, Royal Mills	Sharrock, Evrard
Byrd, Francis Jahew	Mathews, James	Thurman, William Henry
Calhoun, Henry Clay	Mann, John Christian	Wilson, Richard Montg'y
Carter, John Beach	Mundorf, John	White, Moses Henry
Colby, Alonzo	Mayer, Willis	Winnie, George
Dose, Henry	Mitchell, Freder'k Francis	Wade, Charles Frederick

—47.

PAST MASTERS:

Bach, William Francis	Haslacher, Jacob	Steinson, James
Booth, James Godfrey	Means, Andrew Jackson	Valpey, Abraham Martin—6

WITHDRAWN:

Bacon, Eli Griffith	Cleveland, Septimus Allen	Ripperdan, Isaac—8.
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SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Johnson, William	McFarland, Mathias Faus—2.
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SACRAMENTO CHAPTER, No. 3.**Sacramento, Sacramento County.***Stated Meetings, first Tuesday in each month.***OFFICERS :**

William Monroe Petrie, <i>High Priest,</i>	George Montgomery, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
William Buckley Davis, <i>King,</i>	Elias Rath, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Hilland Pinckney Cottingham, <i>Scribe,</i>	John Henry Eickoff, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Isaac Baldwin Cooledge, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	Henry William Bragg, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Adam Clark Valliant, <i>Principal Sojourn'r,</i>	Alfred Augustus Redington, <i>Secretary,</i>
Cornelius Kellogg, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Petragie Zacharias, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

James Lawrence English, Francis Foster, Powell Samuel Lawson,
 William Franklin Knox, George Howard Winterburn, William Monroe Petrie.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Allen, John Francis	Gillis, Dougald	McLaughlin, William
Allen, Robert	Giraud, Eugene	Miller, Peter Andrew
Alexander, Benj. Franklin	Glover, Edwin	Morse, Stephen Turner
Anthony, James	Golden, Thomas	Murphy, Robert Wilson
Bachmann, Rudolph	Goldberg, Harris	Nelson, Alton Titus
Barnes, Jacob	Griffiths, John T.	Oakley, Peter Eager
Banquier, Joseph	Haines, Gabriel	O'Neil, James
Bergevin, Nelson Langevin	Hamilton, Chas. Alexander	Oschner, John
Berkey, Thomas Henry	Hammer, Luther Kentz	Oughton, Wm. Edward
Bronner, George Frederick	Harper, Thomas	Pacheco, Romualdo
Brewington, Benj. Smith	Harris, Thomas Spencer	Parnell, John Henry
Bryding, Peter	Harris, Elias Bramon	Phillips, Louis
Burnham, James Henry	Harrison, Hamilton Carter	Phipps, Eugene King
Burch, John Chilton	Haskell, Dudley Haines	Porter, James Nichols
Callahan, Daniel E.	Haymond, Creed	Putnam, George Alfred
Carlson, Edward	Hawkins, William	Rademacher, Charles
Champlin, Nelson	Hevener, William Henry	Ressguie, James Glason
Choquette, Caliste	Hillier, Theodore	Robertson, John
Clark, Thomas William	Hoag, William Moffit	Robinson, Robert
Cluness, William R.	Hoehn, Jacob	Ross, Charles Henry
Coghlan, Charles Mortimer	Holmes, Henry T.	Rothermel, Chas. Nicholas
Cohn, Charles	Hull, Joseph	Sawyer, James C.
Conover, John	Hunt, Wm. Smith	Scudder, Charles Lawrence
Cook, Hiram	Hyman, Jacob Sr.	Sims, Samuel
Crocker, George Monroe	Hyman, Jacob Jr.	Smith, John Wm. Martin
Crocker, Henry Smith	Inwalle, John Joseph	Smith, Joshua Hughes
Croly, Edward James	Jackson, William Franklin	Smith, Thomas
Cunningham, John Austin	Jacobs, Enoch	Spinks, Alfred
Cutter, Benoni Benjamin	Jones, Edward Augustus	Starr, Erwin Platt
Dale, Richard	Jones, Jeremiah Solon	Steinman, Bernard Ulmer
Davis, Jacob Zeigler	Kay, Samuel	Trope, Peter
Davis, William Oliver	Keber, Jacob	Tubbs, John Charles
Day, James Thompson	Kercheval, Reuben	Tufts, Albert Carrier
Dennerly, Bernard	Kimball, Gorham Gates	Ulp, Alfred
Domingos, John	Krebs, Charles Henry	Wachhorst, Herman
Drew, Nathaniel Lafayette	Lavenson, Samuel	Walker, Myron Philo
Duprey, George	Levison, Jacob	Wallquist, Carl Johan
Earl, George	Levy, Edward Roger	Webster, Joseph Richard
Ecklon, Christian Ludwig	Libby, Warren Thompson	Welch, Benjamin
Egl, Anthony	Locke, George Washington	Welch, George Drake
English, William Garrison	Lyon, Edward	Wells, William Henry
Feldheim, Nathan G.	Maholm, James Boland	White, George Amos
Forbes, Robert	Maier, Jacob Fred. William	Wick, Robert Kerr
Foy, Wm. Robinson Smith	Marvin, Frank William	Wickstram, Carl Elias
Frank, Samuel	Merrill, John F.	Wilcoxson, Jefferson
Gallatin, Albert	McConnell, Thomas	Wilson, Jesse Warren
Gates, Justin	McCormack, Charles	Willard, David Wright
Gerson, Samuel	McKune, John Hill	Zeh, George Christian—160.

576 *Returns of Subordinate Chapters to the*

MOST EXCELLENT MASTER :

Harbison, John S.—1.

MARK MASTER :

Brougham, Frederick Price—1.

WITHDRAWN:

Budd, Henry

Grady, John Henry

Waterhouse, Columbus—3.

RESTORED :

Gillis, Dougald—1.

EXCLUDED :

Silberstein, Morris

Taylor, Edwin Frost

Woods, Jonas Stanbury—3.

DIED :

Curtis, Edward Malcolm

Lawrie, John Brown

Parker, George Norman—3.

CALIFORNIA CHAPTER, No. 5.

San Francisco, San Francisco County.

Stated Meetings, first and third Tuesdays in each month.

OFFICERS :

Joseph Miller Litchfield, <i>High Priest</i> ,	Sydney Mason Smith, <i>Master of 3d Vail</i> ,
Leonidas E. Pratt, <i>King</i> ,	Geo. Sterry Spratt, <i>Master of 2d Vail</i> ,
Peter Dean, <i>Scribe</i> ,	George Hamlin, <i>Master of 1st Vail</i> ,
John Fitzmaurice Kennedy, <i>Capt. of Host</i> ,	Samuel Graves, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Jesse Combes Reed, <i>Principal Sojourner</i> ,	Wm. Edward Moody, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Dan Joseph Edgar, <i>Royal Arch Captain</i> ,	Samuel David Mayer, <i>Organist</i> ,
James Oglesby, <i>Guard</i> .	

Past High Priests:

Reuben Edgar Raymond,	Wm. Thomas Reynolds,	Samuel Graves,
Alexander Gurdon Abell,	James Laidley,	William Wilson Traylor,
William Henry Lyon,	John Francis Snow,	John Kirkpatrick,
Charles Louis Wiggin,	Hiram Throop Graves,	John William Harville,
George Tuttle Grimes,	Alfred Cooledge Waitt,	Thomas Kyle.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Angus, John Archibald	Bourne, Elisha Wilson	Campbell, Robert
Ashbury, Monroe	Bragg, Robert	Cecil, John
Ashley, Sidney John	Brander, John Samuel	Center, John
Arrowsmith, D. Bloomer	Brannan, Samuel	Chapin, Dinsmore Davis
Atkinson, Thos. Thompson	Bridge, William Edward	Chevers, William Henry
Balch, Stephen Moore	Brigham, Calvin Oakes	Churchill, Clark
Bamber, John	Bromley, George Tisdale	Clary, William Henry
Barth, Charles Hunter	Brittan, Nathaniel Jones	Cockrill, Theo. Guevara
Bateman, Isaac Christian	Brooks, Thomas Hubbard	Coey, James
Beach, Henry Martin	Brown, Roland Gair	Cousins, Charles Samuel
Beadle, Donald	Browning, Jeremiah	Cox, Henry
Bell, John	Bruner, Wm. Happersatt	Cox, Palmer
Best, John Tritten	Bryan, Edward Hord	Craig, William
Blaikie, James Loughhead	Bullis, Omri	Crawford, John Jones
Boswell, Solomon Bailey	Callaghan, Charles	Cummings, Walter Bailey

Damon, Geo. Dimick	Johnston, William David	Pendergast, James Albert
Davis, Edmund S.	Jones, Cyrus Winship	Plum, Charles Mortimer
Davis, Isaac Ephinstone	Jones, William Arthur	Plummer, Harry Wilkinson
Day, Franklin Henry	Kennedy, Frank	Price, Thomas
Dougherty, Chas. Medley	Kibbe, Henry Clay	Prior, John Lewis
Earl, John Ogden	Kimball, Moses Combe	Purdy, John Eldridge
Earle, Henry Halford	King, Henry Lewis	Ramsdell, Benjamin Hatch
Eastman, Frank	King, John	Reavis, William Henry
Easton, Wendell	King, Joseph Libbey	Reynolds, Frank Bailey
Edwards, Frank George	Kincaid, John Evans	Richards, William Henry
Elliot, Gardner	Kuh, Leopold	Root, Ira Colburn
Elliot, Charles Emery	Kaeding, Chas. Van Buren	Rosekrans, Hiram
Ellis, Henry Hiram	Lane, Edmund	Rundell, William Mason
Ewell, Luther Jerome	Laird, David White	Russell, John Adam
Estee, Morris March	Landers, John	Sawyer, Charles Henry
Fake, George John	Lewis, Edwin	Schneider, Edward William
Farnam, Edward	Litchfield, Watson Dyer	Seaton, Horace Henry
Farish, Thomas Edwin	Lloyd, Reuben Hedley	Shaeffer, John Werner
Farwell, William Havard	Louderback, Andrew A.	Shattuck, David Dustin
Foot, Henry DuQuesnet	Luty, John Samuel	Short, Peter
Gabbs, Albert Steph. Isaiah	Lyman, Charles	Shrader, Andrew Jackson
Garfield, John Quincy	Maguire Joseph	Smith, Adrian Russell
Garratt, William Thompson	Maieas, Christian W.	Smith, Edwin Lawrence
Gates, Horatio Sylvester	Marye, Geo. Thomas Jr.	Smith, Henry Sumner
Gilmore, Archibald Neill	McComb, John	Smith, Stephen Henry
Goewey, James Monroe	McCrindle, William	Stadtfeld, Jacob
Grant, Thomas Chamberlin	McDonald, Alex. Dunbar	Stanley, Samuel Lewis
Gray, William	McDonough, And. Nester	Steiger, Charles Rudolphe
Graham, John	McMath, Joseph	Stevens, Wm. Emerson
Gunn, William John	Middleton, Frank	Stockman, John Milton
Hall, Robert	Miller, Abram Isaac	Stoutenborough, J. Henry
Hanscom, John Ostinelli	Miller, Stephen Girard	Stringer, William James
Harney, William	Montagnie, Joseph E. de la	Sullivan, Eugene Lemuel
Harrington, John Conly	Montague, Wilford Weed	Sumner, Frank William
Harris, James Henry	Moore, Elliott Josiah	Sumner, Wm. Brintnell
Haskell, Charles Lyman	Moore, Robert Henry	Swift, James Flitcroft
Hastings, Everett Linus	Morgan, David Jr.	Thompson, Lucius
Hildebrandt, Carsten	Morgan, John Stilwell	Thomson, Malcolm
Hobbs, Caleb Seccohmb	Morse, Ebenezer Eaton	Thrall, Henry Homer
Hodge, John Graham	Morse, Amos Clark	Torrence, John
Hodgkins, Alfred Randall	Morton, Charles Cary	Trueworthy, Francis Marion
Holcomb, William Austin	Muller, John	Tustin, William Isaac
Hotaling, Anson Parsons	Nagel, William	Urquhart, James Simonson
Hotchkiss, Henry Wells	Nagle, George Dedrich	Valentine, John
Howard, George Henry	Neal, Charles Sanders	Van Duzer, Oliver
Howe, George Washington	Neville, Ernest Harry	Vaughn, Alphonzo Hyman
Horton, Thomas Rotch	Norcross, Daniel	Von Jeinsen, Ernest
Ingalls, John Newton	Northrop, David Blair	Wadsworth, James C. L.
Jacobs, Albert	O'Conner, Thomas Michael	Warren, Joseph M.
Jaynes, Frank	Osgood, George	Waterhouse, Fred. Adelbert
Jeffray, William	Oterson, Herman	Waters, George Latham
Johnson, John Munroe	Otto, Charles	Wells, William
Johnson, William Corrie	Parker, George Franklin	Wetherbee, Calvin Hale
Johnston, Baptist	Partridge, Edward Briggs	Wheeler, Jacob

Wilde, Francis Brooke	Williams, John Henry	Wilson, James Knox Polk
Willey, Charles Johnson	Williamson, Robt. Stockton	Winkle, Henry
Willey, Otis Freeman	Wilson, Charles	Wooster, John Benjamin
Williams, Abraham Pease		—250.

MARK MASTERS :

Davis, Solomon	Irwin, James	Nickerson, Charles—5.
Denny, Edward	Mann, Azro Levi	

WITHDRAWN :

Baldwin, Alex. Richards	Clark, Wm. Edward	McNulty, Charles Augustus
Barnes, Wm. Henry Linow	Loop, Sidney Joseph	—5.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:

Eaton, Jonas Allen—1.

DIED :

Eckfeldt, John Michael	Miller, Elbridge L.	Wightman, John—3.
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EXCLUDED :

Cook, Nicholas	Selden, James Miles	Flynn, Martin—4.
Green, Alonzo		

NEVADA CHAPTER, No. 6.

Nevada, Nevada County.

Stated Meetings, first Monday in each month.

OFFICERS :

Thomas Mein, <i>High Priest,</i>	Kaskil Casper, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Ianthus Jerome Rolfe, <i>King,</i>	William Floyd, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
John Herbert Boardman, <i>Scribe,</i>	Ole Amos Nelson, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Allen Chapman, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Martin Luther Marsh, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Bruce Benjamin Lee, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Thomas Hubbard Caswell, <i>Secretary,</i>
Wm. David Long, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Joseph Brewster Gray, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Thomas Hubbard Caswell,	Charles Marsh,	Thomas Mein.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Banner, Pincus	Fowler, Edwin	McBrown, John
Barton, William	Gentry, Richard Benton	Montgomery, John
Chapin, Samuel Leonard	Gilbert, John Richards	Pease, Sanford Orrin
Crandall, Orman	Goldsmith, Adolphus	Powers, George S.
Dickson, John Hutton	Hale, Horace	Prescott, Lyman Reed
Dill, John	Hathaway, Francis Marion	Preston, Edward Myers
Donald, James	Helm, James Harvey	Randolph, William Cooper
Donald, Thomas	Holmes, William	Reid, James
Ennis, Franklin	Marshall, William Allen	Richards, Philip
Faull, George	McBean, John	Rose, David
Fleming, Jos. Davenport	McElvy, Charles	Rose, James

Sargent, Aaron Augustus	Stansfield, Halstead	Wheeler, Matthew Mitchell
Sanders, William Henry	Stowers, Nathaniel Henry	Williamson, Levi
Sanders, Josiah	Thom, David Jr.	Wing, Rodney
Searls, Niles	Tilley, Edwin	Wirth, James Albert—60.
Slinger, William	Weeks, William Hamilton	

RESTORED :

Leeds, Stephen P.—1.

EXCLUDED:

Davidson, William Henry—1.

WITHDRAWN :

Leeds, Stephen P.—1.

DIED

Donald, Alfred—1.

BENICIA CHAPTER, No. 7.

Benicia, Solano County.

Stated Meetings, Tuesday of or next preceding Full Moon.

OFFICERS:

Timothy Sage, <i>High Priest,</i>	Edward H. Von Pfister, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
John Housley, <i>King,</i>	Joseph Green Johnson, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Lansing Bond Mizner, <i>Scribe,</i>	Archibald McDonald, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
George Poor, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	John Rueger, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Wm. Henry Smith, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Thomas McKay, <i>Secretary,</i>
Robert Stewart, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	William Mathewson, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Sylvester Woodbridge,	Timothy Sage.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Brownlee, Thomas	Grant, John	McKenzie, Allen
Danforth, Edwin	Holbrook, Charles Edward	Owen, John Wren
Ennis, Richard	Long, Michael Henry	Pollock, Robert
Freeman, Otis Kimball	Mathewson, John	Westlake, John—27.

MARK MASTERS:

Campbell, William R.	McArthur, Murdock—2.
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WITHDRAWN:

Spencer, Christopher—1.

SHASTA CHAPTER, No. 9.

Shasta, Shasta County.

Stated Meetings, second and fourth Tuesdays in each month.

OFFICERS:

Louis Wellendorff, <i>High Priest,</i>	Alexander R. Andrews, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
William Ely Hopping, <i>King,</i>	Ulysses R. Lord, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Joseph Weil, <i>Scribe,</i>	John William Garden, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Elijah Mason Dixon, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Daniel Porter Bystle, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Adolph Dobrowski, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	David Weil, <i>Secretary,</i>
Mortimer C. Allen, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Gunther Fred. C. Schroter, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Whiting Griswold West, *P. G. H. P.*
 Adolph Dobrowsky,
 George Carruth Farquhar,

Daniel Porter Bystle,
 Louis Wellendorff.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Anderson, Charles	Overmeyer, Charles Edwin	Swain, Alex. Cartwright
Andrew, William	Pryor, Athanasius	Sweet, Henry Andrew
Anklin, Henry	Reagan, James	Syme, John
Chandler, Fred. Brewster	Reinecke, Christopher	Taggart, Grant Israel
Chappell, James Nathan	Ross, Herman Frederick	Taylor, Holloway
Coleman, Adoram	Scammon, James Freeman	Watson, William
Greene, Thomas	Scott, John Varner	Webb, John Paxton
Higginbotham, Jno. Baptist	Shuffleton, Hugh Hall	Wheeler, Frank
Matlock, David B.	Shurtleff, Benjamin	Wilson, Henry Ellis
Moore, Joseph	Souter, John	Wimmer, James Moses—44.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:

Guptil, William Neal—1.

SUTTER CHAPTER, No. 11.

Sutter Creek, Amador County.

Stated Meetings, third Friday in each month.

OFFICERS:

John Whitton Surface, <i>High Priest,</i>	Morris Brinn, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Robert Aitken, <i>King,</i>	Robert Redpath, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Samuel Decount Rolla Stewart, <i>Scribe,</i>	John Lithgon, Jr., <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
William Smith, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Peter Fagan, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Abner E. Callaway, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Alonzo King Dudley, <i>Secretary,</i>
Thomas Dunlap, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	William Bennett, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Alvinza Hayward,	Alexander Cartwright Joy,	Henry Peck.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Adams, James	Ford, Henry Darnell	Milliken, Jesse
Berryman, Andrew	Hall, Henry Frank	Marchant, John
Briggs, Samuel Green	Henley, Jonathan Speaker	McMurray, James Wm.
Burleson, Charles Drake	Huse, Samuel Emerson	Newman, George
Bury, Daniel William	Isaacs, Bernard	Oulds, John
Campbell, John M.	Jelevina, John	Palmer, Eliphalet Charles
Olute, Peter Alonzo	Kelley, John Barnes	Parkinson, Manuel Casado
Comstock, Asa Leland	Kerr, John	Post, John McDougal
Cook, Philemon	Keyes, John	Poundstone, Laurence Ryd
Cosner, Robert	Lillie, John B.	Purrington, Col'bus Allen
Davis, David Thomas	Lutnesky, Vincent	Patterson, David
Ellis, Volney Eaton	Manon, Samuel Sanford	Richling, Peter
Farley, James Thompson	McLean, Laughlin	Robinson, John Andrew
Fiske, Henry Mortimer	Mehrtens, Daniel	Rose, Albert Henry

Russell, John Elisha	Stewart, James Franklin	Taber, Frederick Ketchum
Spagnolia, Sylv'r Giovanni	Stevens, James Bounty	Walther, Otto
Steinberger, John Adam	Surface, James Philip	Whitlach, Daniel Henry
Stuart, Horace Moulton	Sutherland, William	Woolley, Eliphus Burt—68.

PAST MASTERS :

Miller, John Maxey, Jesse Blackburn—2.

DIED :

Whetstone, William Columbus—1.

*** CALAVERAS CHAPTER, No. 12.**

Merced, Merced County.

Stated Meetings, second and fourth Wednesdays in each month.

OFFICERS :

Peter Dinwiddie Wigginton, <i>High Priest,</i>	Sam'l Claghorn Bates, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Silas March, <i>King,</i>	Basil Delashmutt, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Frederick Becker, <i>Scribe,</i>	Samuel Dickenson, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Samuel Mitchell Brown, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	Isaac Henry Jacobs, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Chas, MacMurdo Blair, <i>Princip'l Sojourner,</i>	John Alexander Kendrick, <i>Secretary,</i>
William John Hart, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Anthony James Meany, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Peter Dinwiddie Wigginton, Charles MacMurdo Blair, Mark Howell.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Adams, William	Grade, William Adolph	Scott, Moses Heaton
Aiken, John McFee	Hardwick, Wm. Jefferson	Silman, William Lewis
Bradford, Abram Clark	James, Henry George	Wallace, Erastus
Breen, Nicholas	Lebright, Frederick	Weed, William Seaman
Dickinson, James Johnson	Means, William Leland	Welch, Peyton Young
Eagleson, Erastus	Rector, Eldridge Gerry	Welch, Lucillus Arthur—52.
Fuqua, John Woodson		

PAST MASTERS :

Jacob Elias, Henry Christopher Roes.—2.

WASHINGTON CHAPTER, No. 13.

Marysville, Yuba County.

Stated Meetings, second and fourth Fridays in each month.

OFFICERS :

Andrew Jackson Binney, <i>High Priest,</i>	John McIlmoil, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Arthur Gilman Drake, <i>King,</i>	Adoniram J. Batchelder, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Frederick Buttleman, <i>Scribe,</i>	Henry Charles Lott, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
John Henry Gerken, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	Marcus Marcuse, <i>Treasurer,</i>
———, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Thomas Hugh Kernan, <i>Secretary,</i>
Victor Lewis Ernshields, <i>Royal Arch Capt.,</i>	Thomas Weston Kent, <i>Guard.</i>

* No returns this year.

Past High Priests:

William Lee Lawrence,
Norman Dunning Rideout,

Edmund Taylor Wilkins,
Charles E. Stone,

William Fletcher.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Aaron, Frank Wm. Howard	Filkins, Charles Edward	McKeehan, Iremons Hinckle
Baird, George Hall	Foster, John Quincy	McNutt, John Fleming
Barns, Avery Powers	Friend, William	North, George
Barrie, John Ferguson	Hamlin, Norman Scott	Oakley, Amasa Wilder
Belcher, Edward Augustus	Harvey, William	Parks, William Henry
Belcher, Isaac Sawyer	Harrington, Chris. Clark	Patterson, Charles Milton
Belcher, William Caldwell	Harris, Isaac Thompson	Raynolds, John
Belding, Lyman	Hartwell, William Hiscock	Reece, Thomas White
Bingham, Atkins Clark	Heath, George	Richardson, Geo. Strother
Bockius, Charles George	Hochstadter, Adolph	Rogers, Sam'l Josiah Smith
Bometter, Charles	Hochstadter, Simon	Ross, Samuel Haws
Bradley, Samuel Henry	Hogle, William Henry	Scott, James Milledge
Briggs, Joseph Warren	Holland, George	Slingsby, William
Burchard, John Luther	Hollingshead, Jos. Easton	Sparks, Martin VanBuren
Burgett, Henry	Hudson, Edward Henry	Spear, Andrew Potter
Caldwell, Arthur Brooks	Hunter, Enos Clark	Stanwood, Richard Goss
Carpenter, Geo. Washington	Hutchings, Samuel Cole	Stafford, Joshua
Chandler, Melvin Laveni	Hutchins, Gavin Walker	Steel, Thomas Hugh
Cheney, John	Hutchinson, Samuel	Stratton, Cornelius Allen
Cook, Herman Albert	Irwin, Alexander Cameron	Summerland, Theodore
Cohen, Isaac	Jackson, William	Swain, William Caldwell
Cohen, William	Jones, William Price	Teegarden, Eli
Cohn, Bernard	Jones, James Thaddens	Tomb, Jacob
Crane, Lemuel Trescott	Keser, Louis	Traynor, James
Davey, John	Keyser, Philip Walter	VanFleet, William
Decker, Peter	Knight, David E.	Watson, Benjamin Franklin
Dickey, James Thomas	Lask, Joseph	White, Amasa Willey
Dobbins, Thomas	Lefavor, William Franklin	Whitebread, William Cezar
Dougall, Thomas	Logan, Anderson Dabney	Wilcoxon, Caleb Elisha
Dupuy, Edward Spencer	Lohse, Hermann	Willey, Amasa Parker
Eastman, James Fred.	Marcuse, Meyer A.	Wilson, Sanford Ellis
Ellis, William Turner	Marker, Henry Bowman	Woods, Matthew—113.
Falk, Lewis	Mayoux, Antoine	

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS:

Jasper, Joseph Miscat Carrington

Jones, Richard—2.

WITHDRAWN:

Bigelow, Marcus James

Fisher, Charles Lester—2.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:

Bourne, George Jesse
Harris, Isaac Thompson

Mead, George Purdy
Walker, Louis Philip

Walker, Charles Frederick
—5.

DIED:

Hartwell, William Hiscock

Warren, Jonah Halstead—2.

HOWARD CHAPTER, No. 14.

San Jose, Santa Clara County.

Stated Meetings, first Wednesday in each month.

OFFICERS:

Wilbur Justus Wilcox, <i>High Priest,</i>	Wm. Osman Breyfogle, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Charles Henry Arnold, <i>King,</i>	Lyman Ackley Brownell, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Hardage Lane Andrews, <i>Scribe,</i>	Solomon War'n Easterday, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Henry Howard Cook, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Return Roberts, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Wm. Nicholas Castle, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Sanfler Brockway Anderson, <i>Secretary,</i>
Alonzo Babbitt Hamilton, <i>Royal Arch Capt.</i>	Isaiah Litter Hopkins, <i>Chaplain,</i>
Jacob Moser, <i>Guard.</i>	

Past High Priests:

John Bapksan Hewson,	William Alex. January, <i>P.G.H.P.</i>	Wilbur Justus Wilcox.
Jared Turner,	George May,	

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Allison, William DeWitt	Gillooly, Lawrence Burke	Ohnstein, Oscar
Arnold, Austin	Henklebein, Adam	Peacock, Geo. Washington
Barling, Harry	Hollenbeck, Walter Morr'n	Porter, John T.
Bennett, George Edmund	Holmes, Parker Butterfield	Reither, Jacob
Bishop, Samuel Addison	Houghton, Henry Albert	Rice, Harvey Newton
Black, James Francis	Hoyt, Amasa James	Rowley, Albanus Beliger
Blair, Thomas Henry	Jackson, William Andrew	Rucker, Joseph Edmundson
Bodley, Thomas	Johnson, Samuel William	Sargent, James Pattee
Bohen, Daniel	Jones, Hugh Stevenson	Sexton, William
Boring, Samuel Watson	Joyce, William Willis	Scott, Alexander Franklin
Bradlee, Ezra Smith	Keith, John Matthew	Spence, Edward Fallis
Bradlee, Hugh Johnson	Kupper, Benjamin	Sim, George
Brother, Henry	Lenzen, Theodore	Stockten, Nathaniel Hiram
Brown, James Thomas	Lowrie, John	Spring, Thaddeus Warsew
Brown, Jeremiah Yancey	May, Orange Scott	Sturges, Maholm Beach
Brown, Jacob Newton	Mayers, Christian	Tobin, Michael
Buzza, John Trebilcock	Menefee, Joseph Jefferson	Tully, Edward C.
Dennis, Nelson	McCloskey, Thomas	Tully, Pleasant Briton
Dunshee, Rollin	McDougall, Giles Eggleston	Vandine, E.
Fallon, Thomas	McKenzie, Donald	Warthen, Albert S.
Field, Walter	McMurtry, William Sharpe	Watson, James Hodges
Foote, George William	Mildrum, Charles R.	Weller, Henry Olph
Gardner, David Boyd	Morey, Harvey Chapin	Wells, Procter R.
Garrand, Louis	Mott, Richard Fitzallen	Weymouth, James Lambert
Gerdes, John Christian	Mott, John	Whidden, George Akerman
Grout, Silas	Moyle, Isaiah	Yates, Lorenzo Goodin—96.

WITHDRAWN:

Beard, Elihu Burritt.—1.

DROPPED FROM THE ROLL:

Lemon, James—1.

CYRUS CHAPTER, No. 15.**Yreka, Siskiyou County.***Stated Meetings, second Tuesday in each month.***OFFICERS:**

John Morris Walbridge, <i>High Priest,</i>	Claus Schackenberg, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Mitchell Alex. Brown, <i>King,</i>	Granville Quincy Stewart, <i>Mast. 2d Vail,</i>
George Durand, <i>Scribe,</i>	Andrew Edwd. Schwatka, <i>Mast. 1st Vail,</i>
Alonzo Emory Raynes, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	William McConnell, <i>Treasurer,</i>
James Vance, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	John William Bird, <i>Secretary,</i>
Elijah Carrick, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Joseph Lang, Jr., <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Daniel Ream,	James Vance,	John Morris Walbridge.
Abisha Swain,	Alonzo Emory Raynes,	

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Champlin, Orin	Horn, David	Owens, Alexander
Crooks, And'w Donaldson	Huseman, Louis	Pellet, Samuel
Davis, Charles Henry	Jones, John Johnson	Pyle, Curtis Hooper
Doten, Josiah Wilson	Knights, George Horace	Riley, Francis
Doney, William Rise	Lytle, James Alexander	Rogers, Franklin Augustus
Dumas, Francis	McConaughy, James	Stewart, Samuel Jonathan
Eddy, William Castleton	Monet, Louis	Thompson, John Waldo
Fabricius, And'w Jackson	Newton, Joel	Vogan, James Harper
Haserick, Anton	Nichols, Henry	Wadsworth, Henry
Hessenauer, John Nicholls	Osterman, Jurgan	White, Samuel—44.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTER:

Diggles, Henry Jonas—1.

EXCLUDED:

Burns, Albert Vanderbilt—1.

ST. JAMES CHAPTER, No. 16.**Placerville, El Dorado County.***Stated Meetings, first Wednesday in each month.***OFFICERS:**

Charles Fitzgerald Irwin, <i>High Priest,</i>	And. Jackson Binney, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Charles Broad, <i>King,</i>	Geo. Heirn Gilbert, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Thomas Fraser, <i>Scribe,</i>	Chas. John Arvidson, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Charles Caleb Peirce, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Giusseppe Rolleri, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Geo. Franklin Mack, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Frederick Ferdinand Barss, <i>Secretary,</i>
Marco Verrozza, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Carlo F. Celio, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Frederick Ferdinand Barss,	George Heirn Gilbert,	Robert Chalmers.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Barlow, George Washington	Gelwicks, Daniel William	Miller, Daniel Rice
Blakely, Album James	Hammel, Henry	Norton, Daniel E.
Burnham, George	Hertel, Charles H. E.	Page, Horace Francis
Caystile, Thomas John	Hopkins, Lemuel B.	Plumado, Frank Hilair
Chalmers, George	Hume, James Bunyan	Taghtmier, Frederick
Christie, Andrew Jackson	Levy, Joseph	Turman, Byron Isaac
Crowder, Jeremiah Jackson	Lohry, Adam	VanVoorhies, Ralph J.
Dantz, Paul	Murry, Nelson Henry	Weatherwax, Chas. H.—38.
Dench, John William		

PAST MASTER :

Philips, George W.—1.

WITHDRAWN :

Boop, John Daniel—1.

LIBANUS CHAPTER, No. 17.

Iowa Hill, Placer County.

Stated Meetings, Saturday of or next succeeding Full Moon.

OFFICERS :

James Ross, <i>High Priest,</i>	Chester Hackett, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Edward George Spencer, <i>King,</i>	John Peter Just, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Jonathan Mitchell Smith, <i>Scribe,</i>	Willis Fish Gould, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
William Whipple Poole, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	John Schmitt, <i>Treasurer,</i>
John Floyd Van Divier, <i>Principal Sojour'r,</i>	John Butler, <i>Secretary,</i>
John Henry Mitchell, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	James Jasper Rich, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

William Clinton Rich,	James Ross,	William Whipple Poole.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Barrett, Adams	Jacobs, James Monroe	Mitchell, Edward
Cameron, William	Jones, Jehoaikim	Stemple, Henry
Chinn, James Weeks	Lewis, Robert	Smith, William
Develey, Henry K.	Mill, William	White, William K.—26.
Hughs, Richard Rogers		

WITHDRAWN:

Jones, Owen—1.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:

Eddings, George Franklin—1.

DROPPED FROM THE ROLL :

Leighton, Aug. Lord (M. M.)—1.

GRASS VALLEY CHAPTER, No. 18.**Grass Valley, Nevada County.***Stated Meetings, first Wednesday in each month.***OFFICERS:**

Edward Coleman, <i>High Priest</i> ,	Wm. Gordon Hudson, <i>Master of 3d Vail</i> ,
James Gluyas, <i>King</i> ,	Step. Mitchell Harris, <i>Master of 2d Vail</i> ,
Alexander Stoddard, <i>Scribe</i> ,	John Burnett, <i>Master of 1st Vail</i> ,
Jona. Converse Clough, <i>Capt. of the Host</i> ,	John Crisp Coleman, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Thos. John Mitchell, <i>Principal Sojourner</i> ,	Charles Henry Mitchell, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Henry Randall Stevens, <i>Royal Arch Capt.</i> ,	Alexander Burrin, <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests:

Alfred Barrett Dibble,	Alexander Buchanan Brady,	Reuben Leech.
William McCormick,		

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Anderson, Aug'tus Peyton	Gad, Bernard	Peers, Joseph
Anderson, Robert	Goad, John Cornelius	Price, Briscoe Hugh
Angove, John	Hand, William Dawson	Rhatigan, John
Baun, John Frederick	Halleck, Joseph	Rowland, Louis Jerome
Berg, Alfred	Hatch, Martin Payne	Sanders, John
Binkleman, David	Husom, Andrew	Saxon, Edward
Bonivert, Paschal Joseph	Kendig, Daniel	Saxon, James
Bryan, John Albion	Lathrop, Solomon	Simpson, James
Bryant, William Henry	Lawrence, John	Smith, Charles Woolson
Burns, John Thompson	Lowrey, Richard Daniel	Spencer, William Kenyon
Catron, William	Major, John Newton	Stoddard, Orlando
Clift, William	Mitchell, William Henry	Stoddard, Walter S.
Coombe, William	Moore, Stephen	Stokes, William Charles
Crocker, John Ross	Morehouse, Alfonso	Sullivan, John Lyons
Cross, Thomas	Noall, James	Vincent, George
Dorsey, John Jacob	Noel, Richard	Walker, Thomas Rolla
Fairhurst, Geo. Washington	Noel, James Clymer	Watt, William
Findley, Thomas	Noonan, Patrick	Whiting, Edward Houston
Fricot, Jules		

—67.

PAST MASTER:

Mansau, Zephaniah—1.

MARK MASTERS:

Coffee, William R.	Weaver, George W.—2.
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WITHDRAWN:

Boden, Thomas	Morris, Jacob—2.
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DIED:

Delano, Alonzo	Farrell, James Alexander—2.
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TRINITY CHAPTER, No. 19.

Weaverville, Trinity County,

Stated Meetings, second and fourth Tuesdays in each month.

OFFICERS:

Wiley James Tinnin, <i>High Priest,</i>	Gotlieb Fred. Diener, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Olo Christian Christiansen, <i>King,</i>	David Harden, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Thomas Love Miller, <i>Scribe,</i>	Peter Paulsen, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Jacob Paulsen, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Otto Volmers, <i>Treasurer,</i>
James Madison Pickett, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	Morris Franklin Griffin, <i>Secretary,</i>
Joel Chilton Wood, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Charles John Aug. Goering, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Wiley James Tinnin, John Clifton Mason, Olo Christian Christiansen.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Black, Peter Patterson	Haas, Gotlieb Frederick	Raab, Louis
Given, William Cushing	Musser, John	Ruch, Michael—19.

PAST MASTERS:

Philbrook, John McMurry, John Smiley, John Wesley—3.

WITHDRAWN:

McGillivray, Joseph—1.

FRANKLIN CHAPTER, No. 20.

Oroville, Butte County.

Stated Meetings, first and third Thursdays in each month.

OFFICERS:

Thomas Callow, <i>High Priest,</i>	George Shear, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
St. John Jackson, <i>King,</i>	William Edmonds, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Ralzemond Parker, <i>Scribe,</i>	David Bright Hays, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
David King Perkins, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Frederick John Becker, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Patrick Ogilby Hundley, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	Arthur McDermott, <i>Secretary,</i>
Louis Simons, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	John Constantine Mitchell, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Thomas Callow,	George Clement Perkins,	Thomas Jarrett Jenkins,
Charles Fayette Lott,	Arthur McDermott,	George Henry Crossette.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Beall, John	Gallinger, Abraham B.	Rollins, Daniel Fletcher
Block, Joseph	Glass, Louis	Ruggles, Elijah Starr
Branscomb, John	Heintz, Thibault	Sparks, Ebenezer Morrison
Buchanan, Philander	Hendricks, Thomas	Stearns, Amos Kies
Burroughs, Charles	Hewitt, John Boughton	Tabor, Floyd
Byler, Eldridge Mallard	Hida, Jehu	Vance, James Monroe
Chappell, Wallace Homer	Lawson, Andrew	Wagner, Frank
Davis, Edward Jennings	Logan, James Columbus	Wells, Michael Henry
Dyer, George Washington	Plum, Nathaniel Dunbar	Young, Henry G.—41.
Faulkner, Thomas	Powell, David	

MARK MASTER :

Kenney, John Leander—1.

PAST MASTERS :

Bean, Jackson

Goodday, Louis—2.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

West, Miers Barton—1.

DIED :

Harris, Jahial—1.

SIERRA CHAPTER, No. 21.**Downieville, Sierra County.***Stated Meetings, Saturday of or next preceding Full Moon.***OFFICERS :**

William Thompson, Luther, <i>High Priest</i> ,	Joseph Berg, <i>Master of 3d Vail</i> ,
Benjamin Pauly, <i>King</i> ,	George C. Martin, <i>Master of 2d Vail</i> ,
Lewis Byington, <i>Scribe</i> ,	John August Blohm, <i>Master of 1st Vail</i> ,
Alexander Thom, <i>Captain of the Host</i> ,	Ernest Kruse, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
John Gale, <i>Principal Sojourner</i> ,	William Ryan, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Hiram George Wier, <i>Royal Arch Capt.</i>	Peter Thatcher, <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests :

Henry Warner,	William Thompson Luther,	Edwin Ransom Davis.
Washington Cicero Doud,		

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Abbey, George Henry	Eschbacher, Franz Antoine	Peacock, James Richard
Anderson, Andrew	Grippen, Erastus Mortimer	Picken, Alexander
Asher, Alexander Branch	Gunsolus, William Henry	Purdy, Henry Haddon
Bernhard, Lewis	Hanley, William A.	Ross, John
Bradbury, John T.	Hartling, Valentine	Shawness, John
Busch, August Christopher	Jackson, Daniel	Stewart, Samuel Curtis
Clute, John Howard	Koutz, John	Strange, Henry
Crane, Lauren Elliot	Langstaff, Matthew	Thomas, Henry
Creveling, Elemuel N. L.	Malone, Rowland Cusin	West, John Thorrensues
Crooks, James Brown	McNaughton, James	Wilkins, William—47.
Ellery, Henry, Jr.	Parsons, Nathan	

WITHDRAWN :

Davis, Willett Charles

Riley, William Eugene—2.

PETALUMA CHAPTER, No. 22.

Petaluma, Sonoma County.

Stated Meetings, first and third Mondays in each month.

OFFICERS:

Oscar Valentine Walker, <i>High Priest,</i>	Leonard Haubrick, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Asahel Adams Bean, <i>King,</i>	Achille Kahn, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
James Huline Knowles, <i>Scribe,</i>	John Bauer, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
James Singley, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Joseph Martin Bowles, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Benj. Franklin Tuttle, <i>Princi'l Sojourner,</i>	Josiah Hor Crane, <i>Secretary,</i>
Denison Delos Carder, <i>Royal Arch Capt.</i>	William Samuel Keays, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

James Singley,	Benjamin Franklin Tuttle,	Oscar Valentine Walker.
Thomas Jefferson Graham,		

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Allen, William Thomas	Gerlock, Lewis	Pierce, Abraham Jewell
Anderson, James Wright	Goshen, Marcus Dyatheka	Polk, Charles Ephraim
Biehler, William	Heineken, Hiram Albert	Schroyer, Aaron
Carpenter, William	Hoffman, Adam Joseph	Shone, Thomas
Clouetts, Henry Felix	Kuffel, Isaac	Stockwell, Murenos Vincent
Cox, William Emery	Lackey, Alexander	Taft, Hiram Fayette
Dreyfuss, Edward	Maguire, James Foster	Tempel, Conrad
Fairbanks, Hiram Tobbert	Merritt, John	Wands, James
Farley, Francis Hall	Moffitt, John	Yoeman, Charles—41.
Galvin, Micah Jonah C.		

RESTORED :

Yoeman, Charles—1.

WITHDRAWN:

Christie, John Boyd	Huie, John Thompson	Mallott, Leonard Coatsworth
		—3.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:

Preston, Richard Milne	Todd, William	Huie, George William—4.
Shaver, John		

EXCLUDED :

Thompson, Jefferson—1.

DIED :

Ross, William	Miner, Welcome Ephraim—2.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Ayres, William Henry	Elliott, Matthew	Mann, Benj. Franklin
Bagge, Christian	Evers, John Henry	Marsh, Charles Pantier
Bagley, William Patrick	Farrington, Elvin Dunn	McCord, William P.
Beazell, James	Gabb, William Moor	Milligan, Henry Gilbert
Becht, Joseph	Greenwood, Jacob	Nolan, Stephen
Block, Emanuel David	Grosso, Constantine	Reid, Charles Wood
Carlton, George Henry	Haelke, Hellwig Leopold	Ruth, John
Carrick, John Willard	Harwood, Wm.' Douglass	Searing, William
Chisholm, John	Havens, Henry Herman	Shattuck, Francis K.
Cooms, Henry	Henninger, Frederick	Shimon, John Lewis
Conley, Charles	Hill, William Henry	Smith, Elzaphan Ithamon
Cordes, Paul Henry	Hillebrand, Henry	Snider, Lyman Nutt
Crane, William Watrous	Hitchcock, Henry Elisha	Tirrill, La Fayette
Cushing, Clinton	Hobbs, Levit Moses	Trogden, Willy H.
Delger, Frederick	Howe, Micha Mead	Warner, Franklin
Dieves, Joseph	Jansen, Ernest F. George	Zabel, Julius—63.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTER :

Williams, Mark Anthony—1.

WITHDRAWN:

Walter, William Addison Watson, William C. Wheelan, Alanson—3.

EXCLUDED :

Maloon, Benjamin—1.

DIED :

McMillan, Robert—1.

DELTA CHAPTER, No. 27.**Auburn, Placer County.***Stated Meetings, Thursday of or next preceding Full Moon.***OFFICERS:**

Charles John Hellwig, <i>High Priest</i> ,	Benj. Dulany Dunham, <i>Master 3d Vail</i> ,
Edward Frederick Holley, <i>King</i> ,	Jarius Vesp'n Wardwell, <i>Master 2d Vail</i> ,
Gera Bretton Predmore, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Thomas Burrell Harper, <i>Master 1st Vail</i> ,
Geo. Washington Applegate, <i>Capt. of Host</i> ,	Francis Antone Lux, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
John Riggs Crandall, <i>Principal Sojourner</i> ,	David Wlademer Lubeck, <i>Secretary</i> .
Adrian StoriesWhittemore, <i>R. A. Captain</i> ,	Thomas Jamison, <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests:

John Riggs Crandall, Charles John Hellwig.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Green, William George	Laven, James Andrew	Shepherd, Michael Harper,
Griffith, Griffith	McBride, John	Smith Edward Guy
Hill, Tyler Jefferson	Mullen, William Henry	Stonecipher, Isaac
Kinkade, John Thompson	Pratt, Jonathan Davis	Waldron, Mahlon—24.

RESTORED :

Smith, Edward Guy—1.

WITHDRAWN :

Rusing, Edward S.—1.

EXCLUDED :

Myres, Benjamin Franklin—1.

STOCKTON CHAPTER, No. 28.

Stockton, San Joaquin County.

Stated Meetings, fourth Tuesday in each month.

OFFICERS :

George Alexander McKenzie, <i>High Priest</i> ,	Doran L. Campbell, <i>Master of 3d Vail</i> ,
William Graham, <i>King</i> ,	Julius Robert Steiny, <i>Master of 2d Vail</i> ,
Howard Malcolm Fanning, <i>Scribe</i> ,	James Edgar Requa, <i>Master of 1st Vail</i> ,
Isaac Lothrop, <i>Captain of the Host</i> ,	Edward Richard Hedges, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Philip Thos. Brown, <i>Principal Sojourner</i> ,	Lemuel Elisha Lyon, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Joseph Fyfe, <i>Royal Arch Captain</i> ,	Henry Lewis Foote, <i>Chaplain</i> ,
Thomas Driver, <i>Guard</i> .	

Past High Priests :

Isaac Sutvene Titus, <i>P. G. H. P.</i>	Edward Richard Hedges,
William Abraham Davies, <i>P. G. H. P.</i>	Thomas Kent Hook,
Royal Bellows Parker,	Alexander Chalmers.
Gilbert Burnett Claiborne,	

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Bargion, Peter	Gardner, Thomas M.	Roberts, John Arthur
Belding, Charles	Harrold, Nathaniel Siggons	Roseman, Ferdinand
Beritzhoff, Alex. Charles	Hickman, Edward	Sargent, Henry Sumner
Bertrand, Louis	Hildreth, George Francis	Scott, Edward
Bond, Morris Hartwell	Hodgkins, Henry	Seilnacht, Frank
Brutschy, Charles	Hume, James	Selden, James Richard
Caine, John	Ireland, Elias	Shaw, Henry Coffin
Campbell, Wash. LaFayette	Jackson, John Rob't Scott	Shurtleff, George Augustus
Cavis, Joseph Mills	Jamieson, Andrew Richard	Smith, James Caldwell
Choate, Thomas Baker	Kelsey, John Milton	Smith, Geo. Falkenborough
Cooper, Calvin Savage	Keeler, William Henry	Stevens, Eben Shepard
Cutting, Lewis Morrison	Kingsley, James Forman	Stewart, Frank
Daniels, James Moore	Kirkland, William	Stockton, Elias Alonzo
Dorrance, Henry Tully	Littlehale, James	Swain, Cornelius
Dyke, Ozro D.	McCleary, John	Taylor, Hugh Woodruff
Eldridge, Edward Duane	Milco, Nicola	Taylor, Ed. Hy. Courtney
Eldridge, Samuel	Misener, Norman Sumner	Thresher, Minord Sprague
Elliott, Lyman Weston	Norton, Edward	Tilgham, George
Evans, George Spofford	Orr, Nelson Mills	Tucker, Frederick Mau
Fletcher, Willard Franklin	Peters, Joseph D.	Vance, John Anderson
Fraser, Philip Barry	Phelps, Joseph Larose	Waterman, Sylvanus Dexter

—83.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS :

Carner, Charles Isaac	Ranney, Sullivan	Thompson, John Wm.—3.
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RESTORED :

Barada, Laurent—1.

WITHDRAWN:

Burkett, Alexander	Houston, William James	Wilson, Thomas A.
Barada, Laurent	Munter, August Fred. Wm.	Wardrobe, Samuel Velorious

—8.

MANZANITA CHAPTER, No. 29.**North San Juan, Nevada County.***Stated Meetings, first Friday in each month.***OFFICERS :**

John Storer McBride, <i>High Priest,</i>	John McCoy, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
George Cummings Spooner, <i>King,</i>	Joseph Gordon Dickson, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
William Morgan Davis, <i>Scribe,</i>	Frederick Bank, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Reginald Powell, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	John Ambrose Seely, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Frank Napoleon Morris, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	Elon White, <i>Secretary,</i>
Henry Hudson Rich, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Hans Ipson, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

John Ambrose Seely,	John Benedict Hunter,	John Storer McBride.
George Washington Perkins,		

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Allinburg, Charles	Fitter, John	McNulty, Henry
Atwater, Henry	Freeman, Thomas	Morgan, John Thomas
Ayer, Leonard Barney	Furth, Simon	Netter, Nathan
Beard, James Edward	Getchell, Hiram	Noblet, William Berry
Bell, Vincent George	Henderson, David	Ovett, Alonzo Willis
Buhring, Louis	Helwig, John Henry	Phillips, Reuben
Butler, Patrick Henry	Hickman, John Clayborne	Reddington, James
Bremont, Camille Gustave	Hillard, Samuel Robert	Stone, John
Cadwallader, Niram	Huff, William	Stokes, David
Chapman, Martin Van B'n	Inder, Job Staples	Swan, Anson Burlingame
Chisholm, James	Jepson, Jacob	Thomas, Richard
Cooke, Joseph Bailey	Jepson, Otto Christian	Treanor, James McWade
Cull, Henry	McCullough, James	Trood, William
Cunard, James Henry	McDonald, And'w Jackson	Tucker, Joseph Bernard
Dunning, William	McMurry, Robert	Westerfield, Wm. Jackson
Effinger, John Henry		

—60.

NAPA CHAPTER, No. 30.**Napa, Napa County.***Stated Meetings, second and fourth Fridays in each month.***OFFICERS :**

Ralph Ellis, <i>High Priest,</i>	Robert Crouch, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Beeby Robinson, <i>King,</i>	William Andrews, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
William Henry Holliday, <i>Scribe,</i>	Wm. Corb Schanck Smith, <i>Master 1st V.</i>
William Bradford, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	David Leopold Haas, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Henry Hay Knapp, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Henry Conrad Horstmeyer, <i>Secretary,</i>
Daniel Burrell Parks, <i>Poyal Arch Capt.,</i>	Amos Smith Knapp, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Henry Hay Knapp,	Robert Crouch,	Ralph Ellis.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Armstutz, Henry Louis	Ellis, Frederick Plummer	Sampson, Andrew
Blake, Charles Morris	Everts, Charles Nicholas	Sayward, James Wheaton
Briggs, Sebra	Fisher, William Frederick	Sterling, Robert Henry
Brown, William Reed	Ford, George Wellham	Stillwagon, William Wilson
Carver, Dumsdill Burr	Getz, Marcus	Tucker, Thomas Jefferson
Clark, Samuel Gilman	Greer, Thomas	Van Bever, Peter
Corwin, Louis Marion	Mecklenburg, Joseph	Wines, Charles Buckley
Davis, James Richardson		—34.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS :

Hoover, John	Shaw, Matthew—2.
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WITHDRAWN:

Brown, Edgar	Ritchie, Silas—2.
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MARTINEZ CHAPTER, No. 31.

Martinez, Contra Costa County.

Stated Meetings, Monday of or next preceding Full Moon.

OFFICERS :

Thomas Allen Brown, <i>High Priest,</i>	Solomon Newberger, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Lewis Cass Wittenmeyer, <i>King,</i>	Daniel Fraser, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Simon Blum, <i>Scribe,</i>	John Tucker, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Wm. Henry Buckley, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Barry Baldwin, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Isidore Weis, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	George Atwood Sherman, <i>Secretary,</i>
Wm. Morrill Hale, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	———, <i>Guard,</i>

Past High Priests :

Warren Brown,	Hiram Mills,	Lewis Cass Wittenmeyer.
Thomas Allen Brown,	William Morrill Hale,	

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Del Place, Ernest	Mathews, Felix A.	Slitz, John
Fernandez, Bernardo	Moore, John Adams	Troy, John Henry
Gallagher, Henry Clay	O'Brien, John Conlin	Turner, Benjamin Coffin
Girvan, William	Ruggles, Charles Augustus	Wall, George
Gray, James	Shepard, Mark	Walker, James Formany
Hard, Roswell Burt	Shreeve, Benjamin	Wiggins, George—32.
Lambert, Hiram		

MARK MASTER :

Sharp, Smith Robinson—1.

DIED :

Fassett, Henry Walbridge—1.

LOS ANGELES CHAPTER, No. 33.**Los Angeles, Los Angeles County.***Stated Meetings, second Monday in each month.***OFFICERS:**

Francis Pliny Fisk Temple, <i>High Priest</i> ,	Michel Levy, <i>Master of 3d Vail</i> ,
Samuel Prager, <i>King</i> ,	Peter Thompson, <i>Master of 2d Vail</i> ,
Samuel Calvert Foy, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Chas. Louis Ducommon, <i>Master 1st Vail</i> ,
Abraham Wolf Edelman, <i>Capt. of Host</i> ,	Samuel Meyer, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Thomas Edwin Rowan, <i>Prin. Sojourner</i> ,	Wm. Henry Archibald Kidd, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Moritz Morris, <i>Royal Arch Captain</i> ,	Herman Neidecken, <i>Guard</i> .

Past High Priests:

Abraham Wolf Edelman,	John Quincy Adams Stanley,	Henry Sayre Orme.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Allanson, Horace Storey	Glenn, James Newton	Lazzarovich, John
Barrows, Henry Dwight	Hammel, Henry	Lecouvreur, Frank
Bennett, Silas	Hewitt, Eldridge Ed.	Martin, William Thomas
Buffum, William Mansfield	Higby, Christ'r Columbus	Michaelis, Marcus
Burdick, Thomas H.	Hinds, George	Narbonne, Nath'l Andrew
Brunson, Anson	Holmes, Arthur Child	Portugal, Adolph
Brunning, Henry Nicholas	Holmes, James Gilmore	Rich, Joseph Anderson
Butler, George Rawson	Horan, Andrew	Reiser, Theodore
Campbell, A. Melancthon	Jackson, Robert Everett	Reynolds, John Jefferson
Chapman, William Smyth	Jacobs, Lewis	Stanway, Thomas S.
Cohen, Solomon	Jacoby, Nathan	Temple, Thomas Workman
Courtney, William	Jaegar, Lewis J. F.	Weston, Benjamin S.
Davis, Philip	Kohler, Henry	Workman, William—55.
Downey, John Gately	Lambourne, Fred.	

MARK MASTERS:

Allen, Gabriel	Long, George Edward—2.
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WITHDRAWN:

Casad, Thomas	Rolfe, Horace Cowen	Sweetser, Charles Corodin
Parcels, Horatio Sutton		—4.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:

Jacoby, Herman—1.

DIED:

Goller, John	Phelps, Elihu Charles	Reed, John—4.
Johnson, Phil		

ALTURAS CHAPTER, No. 34.

La Porte, Plumas County.

Stated Meetings, first Saturday in each month.

OFFICERS:

Peter R. Meikle, <i>High Priest,</i>	August Fred. Robson, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
John Hiram Thomas, <i>King,</i>	Francis Joseph Kling, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Charles Smith, <i>Scribe,</i>	Roderick Sutherland, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
John Preston Lloyd, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Benjamin Wilcox Barnes, <i>Treasurer,</i>
John Wesley Jenkins, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Dixon Brabban, <i>Secretary,</i>
John Douglas, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	George McLeod, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Abel McFarland,	Elias Anderson,	Peter R. Meikle.
Benjamin Wilcox Barnes,		

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Brewster, Sam'l Thompson	Meikle, William	Schofield, Mark
Chittenden, Henry Hatfield	Patterson, George	Shultz, John Frederick
Clough, Greenleaf Greeley	Patterson, Robert Pagan	Small, Jacob
Descombes, Francis	Ruppert, Charles	Stone, Edwin
Hendell, Charles William	Sammons, Benj. Jacob	Stover, John Emmet
Hill, Maxwell Gaddis	Schofield, Miles	Ward, William—33.

DIED:

Stone, Nathan Hosmer—1.

NAVAL CHAPTER, No. 35.

Vallejo, Solano County.

Stated Meetings, second Wednesday in each month.

OFFICERS:

George Fayette Mallett, <i>High Priest,</i>	Jefferson Thos. Crowley, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Charles Daly, <i>King,</i>	Francis Garland, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Frank Edward Brown, <i>Scribe,</i>	Dallas Jones Farley, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Jonathan Bond, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Edward Thompson Starr, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Sam. Greely Hilborn, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Edward Albert Willats, <i>Secretary,</i>
Benjamin Benas, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Henry Stahl, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

John Mills Browne,	Osgood Hilton,	Alex. Hopkins Hichborn.
Mattison Myers,		

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Armstrong, Ellis Thompson	Carter, James	Edgcombe, Joseph Collins
Brown, Roswell Homer	Carter, William	Ferrebee, Nel'n McPherson
Brownlie, John	Chandler, Robert	Frey, John
Bruce, Henry	Cushing, Frank Worthy	Frisby, William Edward
Butler, Orrin Hartwell	Denio, Cyrennius Blackman	Guffy, Alexander
Bertoscky, Alex Bertosch	Drake, Frank	Gunning, Alfred Henry

Haas, Solomon Leon	Morse, Charles Alonzo	Sides, George Elvin
Hallin, Christian Theo. B.	Perkins, Alonzo	Snow, Hiram King
Haskin, Enoch William	Pettis, William Henry	Taylor, Isaac Byron
Harrier, Daniel Webster	Phillips, James	Thompson, John
Henderson, Orrington Lunt	Plaisted, George Pomroy	Titcomb, John Locke
Higson, Frederick Delmer	Powell, Abraham	Toothaker, Harvey Puring'n
Holmes, Ensign Kimball	Robinson, Jno. Buckingham	Topley, James
Irving, Andrew Kerr	Rogers, David William	Tripp, William Henry
Matraw, Benj. Franklin	Root, William Champion	Voorhees, Albert Parsons
McCobb, Abiel Henry	Ross, David Campbell	Wilson, William Cason
McDaniel, Roland Jackson	Rothenbusch, Peter	Wilson, Albion Paris
McLees, Edmund	Rounds, George	Wilson, George Wilkins
McPike, Andrew Jackson	Rutherford, David	Williston, John Edward
Mead, Frank Douglas	Sailor, John Henry	Woods, Geo. Washington
Miller, Peter Brewer	Savage, Thomas	Wright, Gilbert Lafayette
Miller, George Harrison	Smith, John Daniel	—81.

PAST MASTERS :

Haskin, Enoch William	Perkins, Alonzo	Charles, John Wall—4.
Williston, John Edward		

RESTORED :

Woods, George Washington—1.

WITHDRAWN:

Doyle, Phillip Andrew	Hilton, Eben	Wells, John Thomas—3.
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ALAMEDA CHAPTER, No. 36.

Oakland, Alameda County.

Stated Meetings, second and fourth Thursdays in each month.

OFFICERS:

Thomas Jefferson Arnold, <i>High Priest,</i>	Albert William Collins, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
William James Gurnett, <i>King,</i>	Jesse Healy, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
William Addison Walter, <i>Scribe,</i>	John Yule, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
James Dods, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Chas. Henri Fred'k Braun, <i>Treasurer,</i>
James Johnson Porter, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	James Edward Ingols, <i>Secretary,</i>
George York Loring, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Alanson Whelan, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Alpheus Fuller Williams,	James Dods,	Walter Laidlaw.
Nathan Weston Spaulding,		

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Allardt, George Frederick	Chappellet, Felix	Emery, Joseph Stickney
Atchinson, Bezaleel Merritt	Cunningham, Parlan R	Fairchild, O. Lewellyn C.
Antisell, Thomas Murphy	Craib, William	Felton, John Brook
Bartlett, Pliny	Crawford, John William	Gaskill, Rolin Carlous
Batchelder, James	Cushing, John	Goodrich, John Van Buren
Bigelow, Henry Holmes	Duncan, James Wesley	Gordon, Jas. Smith Gilman
Benton, John Elliott	Dusenberry, Myr. Thompson	Graham, William Morrow
Burrell, Alfred William	Dwinelle, John Whipple	Greenman, Harmon
Case, Isham	Elliott, Washington	Hamilton, Laurentine

Harmon, John Brown	Miller, William Noble	Skinner, Isaac Ash
Haven, Charles Dwight	Miller, Peter	Smith, James Dale
Hazelhurst, William	Moore, Albert Alphonso	Tarbett, Foster Berry
Ingersoll, William Bowker	O'Beirne, Thomas John	Tubbs, Hiram
Knowles, Calvin Call	Palmer, Charles Theo. Hart	Van Dyke, Walter
Knickerbocker, Niles	Pardee, Enoch Homer	Walker, George Russell
Lagrange, Oscar Hugh	Pinkerton, Thomas Hamil	Ward, Robert
Lamping, Peter A.	Pinney, George M.	Warner, Alex. Lafayette
Lufkin, Joseph	Ranlett, Horace Dodge	Watson, John Braddock
Marston, Benjamin Sewall	Reichling, Francis	Webber, Mack
Mather, Solon Henry	Rodolph, Frank Bequette	Webster, Edgar Jerome
Mathews, Henry Edward	Rutherford, Chas. Boardman	Wilson, William
McGillivray, Joseph	Sessions, Edward Cathcart	Winchester, John Packu
Miller, J. Frank	Sherman, William	Younger, William John
Miller, Robert Baird	Shorey, Albert	—85.

MARK MASTERS :

Chenhall, Nicholas McGuire, Jesse Milton—2.

WITHDRAWN:

Howard, Charles Webb Whedon, James Thomas Kenyon, Thomas Calvin—4.
Whitney, John James

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES :

Miller, William Henry—1.

DIED:

Scotchler, Joseph Bonaparte Durant, Henry—2.

SILOAM CHAPTER, No. 37.

Colfax, Placer County.

Stated Meetings, second and fourth Tuesdays in each month.

OFFICERS:

Jacob Hart Neff, <i>High Priest,</i>	Octavius King Cloudman, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Alex. Gibson Oliver, <i>King,</i>	James Cook, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Wanton Alfred Himes, <i>Scribe,</i>	Wm. Swift Makins, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Isaac Tibbits Coffin, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Wm. Barrows Hayford, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Watson Brown Osborn, <i>Principal Sojo'er</i>	Morris Lobner, <i>Secretary,</i>
Leopold Lobner, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Leland Cadjew, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

Jacob Hart Neff, *P. G. H. P.* Melvin Syms Gardner.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Allen, Lorenzo Thomas	Kruger, William Henry	Rathburn, John Bell
Bradley, Elisha LaFayette	Le Kamp, John Henry	Story, Wm. Bainbridge
Endean, William	Murphy, Bernard	Thomas, John Young
Graham, Robert Hill	Nichols, Thomas Jefferson	Thomas, Ephraim Mariner
Hodgdon, James Peverly	Osborn, Robert Smith	Tolman, Rufus Jenkins
Holmes, James	Parks, James Harvey	Vincent, Nicholas
King, Thomson	Peden, Albert Oliver	Voss, Louis—36.
Kopp, Charles Mann	Provan, William	

PAST MASTER :

Eslach, David Meyer—1.

WITHDRAWN :

Blanchard, Nathan Weston

Willard, David Wright—2.

SANTA CRUZ CHAPTER, No. 38.**Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz County.***Stated Meetings, second Tuesday in each month.***OFFICERS :**

John Murray Brown, <i>High Priest</i> ,	Kaufman Green, <i>Master of 3d Vail</i> ,
William Felker, <i>King</i> ,	Fred. Aug's Kilborn, <i>Master of 2d Vail</i> ,
Louis Schwartz, <i>Scribe</i> ,	William Ely, <i>Master of 1st Vail</i> ,
Bernhart Wise, <i>Captain of the Host</i> ,	Samuel Arnold Bartlett, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
Wm. Nelson Cummings, <i>Princ. Sojourner</i> ,	Edward Bender, <i>Secretary</i> ,
Edward Swift West, <i>Royal Arch Capt.</i> ,	Edmund Wellington, <i>Guard</i>

Past High Priests :

John Nelson Besse,

John Murray Brown,

James Henry Hoadley.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Adams, Frederick	Hall, Richard Harrison	Perky, Frederick George
Bias, William Henry	Hinds, David	Poland, Henson
Blackburn, Daniel Drew	Jones, Lorenzo Allen	Simons, Ephraim Israel
Chase, John Day	Lake, George Peter	Smith, John Morgan
Daubenbiss, John	McKiernan, Charles	Thompson, Richard
Fitch, Edwin	Parsons, Jacob	Williams, Edward Lawrence
Fagan, Pierce Bye		—32.

WITHDRAWN :

Blakely, Samuel Wallace

Hinds, Peter Richmond

Grant, John—3.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:

Anthony, George

Lincoln, Charles Henry

Skinner, Henry—4.

Collins, George Ullmer

DONNER CHAPTER, No. 39.

Truckee, Nevada County.

Stated Meetings, first and third Mondays in each month.

OFFICERS:

Charles Fayette McGlashan, <i>High Priest,</i>	Ulysses Socrates Dewey, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Joseph Marzen, Sr., <i>King,</i>	Hogan Johnson, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
George Schaffer, <i>Scribe,</i>	Thos. Maria Bittancourt, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Giullo Reanda, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Hiram Whitehead Roberts, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Jos. Dearborn Hilton, <i>Principal Sojou'r,</i>	Julius Adolph, <i>Secretary,</i>
George Royal, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	David Walter Leach, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priest:

Elle Ellen.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Austin, Thomas	Gaylord, Eben Hills	Joesink, Bern. Hendricus
Bacon, Benjamin Franklin	Graham, Andrew Jackson	Marshall, James Edgar
Berg, Aaron	Hamilton, Edward	Morrison, William
Brickell, Edward John	Hill, William Henry	Rabel, Frank
Campbell, William Baker	Hoag, Jacob VanDuzer	Schiveley, Albert Redstone
Cortois, Charles	Holt, Andrew Jackson	Shields, Michael
Doan, Latimer Emery	Hoy, James Wellington	Towle, Hugh Park
Frates, Frank	Hutchinson, John T	Whitmore, James—37.

MARK MASTER:

Chandler, R. H.—1.

WITHDRAWN:

Clarke, John P.	Butt, Levi Daniel	Parker, Samuel—4.
Boyd, John		

DIED:

Hogan, Ephraim—1.

RED BLUFF CHAPTER, No. 40.

Red Bluff, Tehama County.

Stated Meetings, first and third Saturdays in each month.

OFFICERS:

Adoniram Judson Loomis, <i>High Priest,</i>	George Champlin, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Edward Jefferson Lewis, <i>King,</i>	John Steward Hall, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Charles Cadwalader, <i>Scribe,</i>	Rem. Hughes Campbell, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
John Clements, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Henry Clay Richart, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Robert Herd Blossom, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	— — —, <i>Secretary,</i>
Nathanial Merrill, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Ellis Reiser, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priest:

Adoniram Judson Loomis.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Bettis, Rawson Southerland	Griggs, Sidney Allen	Puls, George
Boice, Thomas Cartmill	Healy, Lucien Bonaparte	Ryan, Thomas R.
Bucher, Gustavus W.	Jackson, Alexander Bell	Schoenfeld, Solomon David
Cameron, James Strong	Miller, Francis	Schoenfeld, Jeremiah
Collins, Henry	Misch, Mayer	Stokes, John Gardner
Cone, Joseph Spencer	Nagle, Peter Buck	Thomas, Samuel S.
Copeland, Hosmer Curtis	Parker, William Boyd	Vestal, Frank A.
Elkins, Henry Marrett	Phillips, John Waterman	Wadsworth, Silas Marsden
Galland, Joseph Barnet	Posner, Max	Wilson, Henry Clay—38.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTERS :

Rawson, Hiram A.

Swain, Theodore Shane—2.

PAST MASTERS :

Ballard, Curtis D.

Banks, Jerome

Welton, Lawson Scoville—3.

DIED:

Kinney, Silas Washington

Morris, George Franklin—2.

TEMPLE CHAPTER, No. 41.**Watsonville, Santa Cruz County.***Stated Meetings, first Wednesday in each month.***OFFICERS:**

James Waters, <i>High Priest,</i>	Michael Gagnon, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
James Ingham, <i>King,</i>	Hugh Hillis Dobbins, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
David Brownstone, <i>Scribe,</i>	David Metcalf Aldrich, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
James Martin Rodgers, <i>Captain of Host,</i>	Jeremiah Sheldon Chapman, <i>Treasurer,</i>
William Geo. Hudson, <i>Principal Sojourner,</i>	Charles Lewis Thomas, <i>Secretary,</i>
Alexander Chalmers, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Lewis Allen See, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

James Martin Rodgers,

William Wallace Ross.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Abbot, Carlisle Stewart	Frieremuth, Hervy Weston	Putnam, Azro Carlton
Ashley, James H.	Landrum, Wm. Merimon	Rounds, Henry A.
Brewington, Geo. Hamilton	Martin, Enos James	Stearns, John Peck
Brown, James Hiram	Mauk, Edwin Franklin	Stroud, Tracy
Card, George Boardman	Mitchell, Charles Edward	Thrifi, Alexander
Craig, Andrew	Morris, Moses	Van Doren, William
Flint, Thomas	Payne, John Sidney	Williamson, William—34.

WITHDRAWN :

Howard, Volney

Haydock, William Henry

Warner, Henry Conrad

Howard, Moses Burrill

Look, Prince Helleman

Wahler, Joseph Daniel

Headen, George T.

—7.

CHICO CHAPTER, No. 42.

Chico, Butte County.

Stated Meetings, second and fourth Mondays in each month.

OFFICERS:

Carnot Courtland Mason, <i>High Priest,</i>	Edw. Cnyler Nichols, <i>Master 3d Vail,</i>
Charles Alton Miller, <i>King,</i>	Henry Preston Holmes, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Robert Emmett Warren, <i>Scribe,</i>	Wm. Duncan King, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Charles Faulkner, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	Alexander Hill Crew, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Watson King Springer, <i>Principal Sojo'er,</i>	John Alphonso Turner, <i>Secretary,</i>
Wm. Tomes Turner, <i>Royal Arch Capt.</i>	Jesse Wood, <i>Chaplain,</i>
John Newton Montgomery, <i>Guard.</i>	

Past High Priests:

Charles Louis Pond,	Rufus Macagah Cochran,	Carnot Courtland Mason.
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ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Batchelder, Hiram Treat	Gynn, Pleasant Medrian	Noonan, Jerry Childs
Bennett, Isaac Rugg	Hamblin, Geo. Lawrence	Robinson, John Rose
Bidwell, John	Hansen, Lauritz	Sawyer, Alexander
Bidwell, Abram B	Heath, Wm. Daniel	Sproul, Samuel Murray
Bradley, William Leroy	Holbrook, Charles Henry	Stevens, Warren Charles
Boucher, Josiah	Houghton, Jos. Richardson	Stilson, Charles Louis
Chapman, Augustus Harley	Hoole, Edward	Tanquary, Oliver Hazard P.
Clark, James Birney	Hubbs, Benjamin Albert	Taylor, George Matteson
Colby, Gilbert Winslow	Ketchum, John Addison	Turner, John Calvin
Daniels, Samuel	Leininger, Obadiah	Walraven, Garrett Wells
Decker, James Madison	Mitchell, James Ewing	Warren, Cyrus Greenleaf
Durham, Wm. Wellington	Montgomery, J.W. Bradford	Wayland, Joseph Franklin
Durham, George Waddell	Moore, Thomas Jefferson	Wetherbee, Ira Alston
Garner, John Nickerson	Morse, Orson Taylor	Wood, Jesse
Gifford, Albert Judson	Murdock, William	Young, Alexander—53.
Graves, Fountain Columbus	Nelson, Charles Anderson	

MARK MASTER:

John Nesbitt Smith—1.

RESTORED:

Fuller, Harrison William—1.

WITHDRAWN:

Fuller, Harrison William—1.

SOLANO CHAPER, No. 43.

Suisun, Solano County.

Stated Meetings, Wednesday of or next preceding Full Moon.

OFFICERS:

Stephen Kirby Nurse, <i>High Priest,</i>	Addeline Chapman, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Jerome Bonaparte Richardson, <i>King,</i>	Freeman Hunnewell, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
Jacob Henry Bauman, <i>Scribe,</i>	Samuel Anthony Morris, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
Allen Charles Miller, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	William Kimball Hoyt, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Jos. Fairbanks Wendell, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	Joseph Wolf Stamper, <i>Secretary,</i>
Julian Buel Hoyt, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	William Gustavus Davisson, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests :

William Sewall Wells,

Albert Frederick Knorp.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Campbell, Samuel Duncan	Leithead, William	Reeves, Columbus Palestine
Capell, James Smith	Longmire, Daniel	Reeves, Duke Davis
Cerkell, Wolf	Marston, Jeremiah Hobbs	Robbins, Renel Drinkwater
Chapman, Adeline	Miller, Meredith Rains	Robinson, John
Coghlan, John Maxwell	Moore, Arthur	Smith, Sampson
Emigh, Thomas Powell	Owens, Woodford, Jr.	Stewart, Samuel
Hitchcock, Abram Farr	Perkins, Eben Dorman	Stephens, William Bell
Hoyt, George Adolphus	Pine, Charles Andrew	Tyrrell, John Hayden—40.
Jones, Joseph Pickle	Poole, Josiah	

MARK MASTER :

Coghlan, Oscar Rapier—1.

WITHDRAWN :

Hinman, Justus Michael—1.

DIED :

Bope, John Baptiste—1.

VISALIA CHAPTER, No. 44.**Visalla, Tulare County.***Stated Meetings, second and fourth Saturdays in each month.***OFFICERS:**

Andrew Henderson Broder, <i>High Priest,</i>	Theodore Spencer, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Benjamin LaFayette Conyers, <i>King,</i>	James Edward Denney, <i>Master 2d Vail,</i>
Abram Hunter Murray, <i>Scribe,</i>	Perus Sprague Tracy, <i>Master 1st Vail,</i>
John Tuohy, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	John William Crowley, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Robert Chidley Broder, <i>Princip'l Sojo'r,</i>	Pleasant Byrd, <i>Secretary,</i>
Jeremiah Parker, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Alpha Hayden Glasscock, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priests:

Andrew Henderson Broder.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Baker, Martin	Esrey, Justin	Jourdan, Francis
Chatten, Richard	Gilroy, Launcelot	Kelly, Thomas Almaren
Coleman, John Wiley	Harland, William	Nelson, Edward Peter
Creighton, Samuel Gray	Hackett, Henry	Parker, Basil Gather
Davisson, Israel	Hockett, John Benjamin	Stoneman, Finis Ewing
Eaton, Mathew	Henry, Albert Reece	Wells, Morgan James—32.
Elkins, Abiel	Johnson, Thomas Price	

PAST MASTERS :

Owen, William Rensellar

Ward, Josesh Clarence—2.

SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES:

Grussenmeyer, Joseph F. M.—1.

DIED:

Strong, Charles Carroll—1.

SANTA ROSA CHAPTER, No. 45.

Santa Rosa, Sonoma County.

Stated Meetings, first and third Wednesdays in each month.

OFFICERS:

Adolphus Leigh Fitzgerald, <i>High Priest,</i>	Edward Neblett, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Elijah Thompson Farmer, <i>King,</i>	Aug. Leander Fisher, <i>Mast. of 2d Vail,</i>
Peter A Hailman, <i>Scribe,</i>	James P. Duncan, <i>Mast. of 1st Vail,</i>
George Alex. Thornton, <i>Capt. of the Host,</i>	John McCullough White, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Robert Kirtley Hayes, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	John Mathews, <i>Secretary,</i>
John Ripley Wright, <i>Royal Arch Captain,</i>	Julio Carillo, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priest:

Adolphus Leigh Fitzgerald.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Alban, William Green	Gannon, James	Johnson, Melville
Alexander, George Douglas	Gordon, James Burns	Knox, John Thompson
Anderson, Wm. LaFayette	Griggs, Joseph Henry	Label, Hermon
Andrews, Peter	Head, Robertson	Maddox, Lorenzo Dow
Beam, Jeremiah	Hendley, John	Overton, Albert Berry
Bond, Wm. Hammett	Hewlett, Edmund Palmer	Parks, David Harrison
Brown, Samuel	Hoffer, Charles Augustus	Percival, Walter C.
Davis, Elisha Lacy	Holmes, Henderson Phineas	Taylor, John Shackelford
Duncan, Daniel	Howell, Frank Newton	Thompson, Rbt. August's, Jr.
Fulkerson, Theodorus S.	Jackson, Ed. Newton Barnes	Wright, Joseph—42.

MOST EXCELLENT MASTER:

Achuff, Jesse Newton—1.

MARK MASTER:

Caldwell, Francis Marion—1.

DIED:

Lane, Geo. Carey—1.

WOODLAND CHAPTER, No. 46.

Woodland, Yolo County.

Stated Meetings, first and third Wednesdays in each month.

OFFICERS:

Charles Henry Davis, <i>High Priest,</i>	Adam J. Steiner, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
Andrew Carlise Kean, <i>King,</i>	Thomas Ross, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
James Kerson Smith, <i>Scribe,</i>	Temple Perine Magee, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
James Viers, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	John Dixon Stephens, <i>Treasurer,</i>
George Jermain Cole, <i>Prin. Sojourner,</i>	Daniel Munroe Burns, <i>Secretary,</i>
Charles Stinson Frost, <i>Royal Arch Capt.</i>	Oliver Bates Wescott, <i>Guard.</i>

Past High Priest:

Thomas Cross Pockman.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Aronson, Henry	Garey, George Jones	Mahan, Samuel Nowlin
Bailey, Alonzo Alcande	Gardner, Matthew	Maltby, John Edward
Bane, Edward Francis	Goode, Daniel Boone	Marden, William Harrison
Barney, Carey	Goodin, Thomas C.	Miller, Frederick
Bray, Edward Gaines	Griffith, Abraham	Paramour, Edward Littleton
Bullock, James Porter	Grimes, George Clayton	Proctor, Calvin Weld
Davis, Samuel Augustus	Guthrie, Thomas Walker	Schindler, David
Dexter, Lorenzo	Harlan, Benjamin Franklin	Shearer, Arthur Benton
Dresbach, William	Harling, Micajah Oglesby	Simpson, John Lowery
Ely, Isaac Jefferson	Harper, Sterling Gorman	Snowball, John W.
Fraser, Donald	Hill, Henry Abraham	Smith, James Kerson
Freeman, Frank'n Sylvester	Harbut, Daniel Bradley	Tebbs, Lilburn Edrington
Furst, Leopold	Hutton, James Alexander	Vaughn, Cornelius L. Neuvall
Gable, Harvey Clinton	Lowry, John William	Wyckoff, Nicolas—55.

WITHDRAWN:

Fraser, Alexander	Hirsch, John Philip	Steele, William—3.
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LASSEN CHAPTER, U. D.**Susanville, Lassen County.***Stated Meetings, Friday of or next preceding the Full Moon in each month.***OFFICERS:**

Allen Wood, <i>High Priest,</i>	Andrew Dill, <i>Master of 3d Vail,</i>
John Chaney Partridge, <i>King,</i>	Dennis Tanner, <i>Master of 2d Vail,</i>
John Renshaw Lockwood, <i>Scribe,</i>	Wm. Hill Naleigh, <i>Master of 1st Vail,</i>
Wm. Kimes Masten, <i>Captain of the Host,</i>	David Knoch, <i>Treasurer,</i>
Albert Augustus Smith, <i>Princi'l Sojourner,</i>	———, <i>Secretary,</i>
James Henry Whitlock, <i>Royal Arch Capt.</i>	Tuane Harrison Tucker, <i>Guard.</i>

ROYAL ARCH MASONS:

Baugham, Eben Gaston	Leavett, Benjamin Hanson	Spalding, Zetus Newell
Bechtol, Albert George	Otto, Anthony	Smyth, Robert Debutts
Crane, William Henry	Saunders, Saunders	Streshly, Orlando
Duncan, And. Cunningham	Sawyer, John James	Stiles, Lyman Collins
Fitch, John Edward	Segrave, John Henry	Ward, Trowbridge Hyer
Hathaway, Hiram Jackson	Sheldon, Benjamin Franklin	—28.

MARK MASTER:

Sloss, Ferdinand Americus—1.

WITHDRAWN:

Masten, William Thomas—1.

DIXON CHAPTER, U. D.

Dixon, Solano County.

Stated Meetings, second and fourth Tuesdays in each month.

OFFICERS:

James Addison Ellis, <i>High Priest</i> ,	John Sweeny, <i>Master 3d Vail</i> ,
Amiel Hockheimer, <i>King</i> ,	Alexander Fraser, <i>Master 2d Vail</i> ,
Andrew Good Summers, <i>Scribe</i> ,	Henry Ewalt McKune, <i>Master 1st Vail</i> ,
Herman Eppinger, <i>Capt. of the Host</i> ,	William Steele, <i>Treasurer</i> ,
• Daniel Longmire, <i>Principal Sojourner</i> ,	Bernhard Ettlinger, <i>Secretary</i> .
Geo. Churchill McKinley, <i>R. A. Captain</i> ,	Elias Mortimer Tyler, <i>Guard</i> .

ROYAL ARCH MASONS :

Agee, Christop'r Columbus	Johnson, James Otis	Munsie, John David
Blum, Moses Jr.	Johnson, William	North, James Charles
Byrne, Daniel Dominic	Kirsch, John Philip	Ross, Henry Ackson
Colburn, Aug's Franklin	Killebrew, William	Sallee, Joseph Walter
Goeffert, Henry	Merryfield, Justus Chandler	Wilcox, Harvey—28.
Garnett, James St. Clair		

MARK MASTERS :

Blitch, Joseph Luke	Gregory, Thomas Meredith	McLean, Fleming—4.
Carlisle, Charles Hambleton		

LIST OF CHAPTERS NOW IN EXISTENCE,

WITH A SUMMARY OF THEIR RETURNS FOR THE TERM, TWELVE MONTHS, ENDING JANUARY 31, A. I. 2405.

NAMES OF CHAPTERS.	PLACE OF LOCATION.		DATE WHEN CHARTER WAS ORDERED.	Marked.	Passed.	Received.	Exalted.	Affiliated.	Restored.	Withdrawn.	Susp. for non- pay t of dues	Sus. Un. Con.	Excluded.	Expelled.	Died.	Rejected.	M. Masters.	Past Masters.	M.E. Masters.	F. A. Masons.
	TOWN.	COUNTY.																		
1 SAN FRANCISCO,	San Francisco,	San Francisco,	July 28, 1854.	27	27	27	29	4	..	4	5	..	..	..	1	4	3	..	..	151
2 SONORA,	Sonora,	Tuolumne,	" "	6	6	..	..	..	..	3	2	..	..	..	..	3	..	6	..	47
3 SACRAMENTO,	Sacramento,	Sacramento,	" "	17	16	16	15	2	1	3	..	..	3	..	3	2	1	..	1	160
* EL DORADO,	El Dorado,	El Dorado,	April 30, 1855.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4 CALIFORNIA,	San Francisco,	San Francisco,	" "	19	15	15	18	3	..	5	1	..	4	..	3	..	5	..	..	250
5 NEVADA,	Nevada,	Nevada,	" "	2	2	3	6	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	60
6 BENICIA,	Benicia,	Solano,	" "	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	27
7 COLUMBIA,	Columbia,	Tuolumne, .....	" "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8 SHASTA,	Shasta,	Shasta, .....	" "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	44
* FOREST,	Forest City,	Sierra, .....	" "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
9 SUTTER,	Sutter Creek,	Amador,	May 3, 1856.	13	13	14	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	2	..	69
10 CALAVERAS,	Snelling,	Merced, .....	" "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32
11 WASHINGTON,	Marysville,	Yuba,	" "	17	20	22	22	..	..	2	5	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	113
12 HOWARD,	San Jose,	Santa Clara,	" "	10	10	11	14	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	96
13 CYRUS,	Yreka,	Siskiyou,	" "	4	4	4	3	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	44
14 ST. JAMES,	Placerville,	El Dorado,	May 8, 1857.	3	3	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	38
15 LIBANUS,	Iowa Hill,	Placer, .....	" "	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	2	..	3	1	..	26
16 GRASS VALLEY,	Grass Valley,	Nevada,	May 7, 1858.	6	4	3	3	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	67
17 TRINITY,	Weaverville,	Trinity,	" "	6	6	3	3	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	19
18 FRANKLIN,	Oroville,	Butte,	" "	6	6	6	6	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	..	45
19 SIERRA,	Downieville,	Sierra,	" "	8	8	8	8	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	47
20 PETALUMA,	Petaluma,	Sonoma,	" "	3	3	3	3	..	1	3	4	..	1	..	2	..	..	1	..	41
21 OLIVER,	Forest Hill,	Placer,	May 6, 1859.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	31
22 LA FAYETTE,	Camptonville,	Yuba, .....	" "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	18
23 GEORGETOWN,	Georgetown,	El Dorado,	May 4, 1860.	1	..	1	2	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	38
24 OAKLAND,	Oakland,	Alameda,	" 5,	2	2	2	4	2	..	3	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	62
25 DELTA,	Auburn,	Placer,	May 10, 1861.	2	3	3	3	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
26 STOCKTON,	Stockton,	San Joaquin,	" "	8	8	8	5	2	1	6	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	83

GRAND OFFICERS

Elected since the Organization of the Grand Chapter, July 28, A. I. 2384.

1854.

CHARLES M. RADCLIFF, *Grand High Priest*. A. B. HOY, *Grand King*.
JOHN D. CREIGH, *Dep. Grand High Priest*. HUGH G. PLATT, *Grand Scribe*.

1855.

JOHN D. CREIGH, ... *Grand High Priest*. WILLIAM W. TRAYLOR, *Grand King*.
ISAAC DAVIS, ... *Dep. Grand High Priest*. LEVERETT BRADLEY, *Grand Scribe*.

1856.

ORANGE H. DIBBLE, ... *Grand High Priest*. WHITING G. WEST, *Grand King*.
WM. W. TRAYLOR, *Dep. Grand High Priest*. *JAMES A. JACKSON, *Grand Scribe*.

1857.

WILLIAM W. TRAYLOR, *Grand High Priest*. WHITING G. WEST, *Grand King*.
THOS. H. CASWELL, *Dep. Grand High Priest*. *JAMES A. JACKSON, *Grand Scribe*.

1858.

THOMAS H. CASWELL, *Grand High Priest*. *JAMES A. JACKSON, *Grand King*.
WHITING G. WEST, *Dep. Grand High Priest*. *HENRY HARE HARTLEY, ... *Grand Scribe*.

1859.

WHITING G. WEST, ... *Grand High Priest*. AARON D. PARK, *Grand King*.
*H. H. HARTLEY, *Dep. Grand High Priest*. *LEWIS REYNOLDS, *Grand Scribe*.

1860.

*HENRY H. HARTLEY, ... *Grand High Priest*. JAMES W. BICKNELL, *Grand King*.
ADOLPHUS HOLLUB, *Dep. Grand High Priest*. EZRA HOWARD VAN DECAR, *Grand Scribe*.

1861.

*HENRY H. HARTLEY, ... *Grand High Priest*. EZRA HOWARD VAN DECAR, *Grand King*.
ADOLPHUS HOLLUB, *Dep. Grand High Priest*. JOHN KIRKPATRICK, *Grand Scribe*.

1862.

ADOLPHUS HOLLUB, ... *Grand High Priest*. JOHN KIRKPATRICK, *Grand King*.
EZRA H. VAN DECAR, *Dep. Gr. High Priest*. CHARLES MARSH, *Grand Scribe*.

1863.

EZRA H. VAN DECAR, ... *Grand High Priest*. CHARLES MARSH, *Grand King*.
JOHN KIRKPATRICK, *Dep. Gr. High Priest*. WILLIAM A. DAVIES, *Grand Scribe*.

1864.

*ISAAC DAVIS, *Grand High Priest*. CHARLES MARSH, *Grand King*.
JOHN KIRKPATRICK, *Dep. Gr. High Priest*. WILLIAM A. DAVIES, *Grand Scribe*.

1865.

JOHN KIRKPATRICK, ... *Grand High Priest*. WILLIAM A. DAVIES, *Grand King*.
CHARLES MARSH, *Dep. Grand High Priest*. ISAAC S. TITUS, *Grand Scribe*.

* Deceased.

List of Grand Officers.

611,

1866.

CHARLES MARSH,....*Grand High Priest.* ISAAC S. TITUS,.....*Grand King.*
WM. A. DAVIES,..*Dep. Grand High Priest.* *JOHN W. HARVILLE,.....*Grand Scribe.*

1867.

ISAAC S. TITUS,.....*Grand High Priest.* *JOHN W. HARVILLE,.....*Grand King.*
*JAS. A. JACKSON,..*Dep. Gr. High Priest.* GEORGE T. GRIMES,.....*Grand Scribe.*

1868.

*JOHN W. HARVILLE,*Grand High Priest.* JAS. LAWRENCE ENGLISH,...*Grand King.*
GEORGE T. GRIMES, *Dep. Gr. High Priest.* JACOB H. NEFF,.....*Grand Scribe.*

1870.

GEORGE T. GRIMES, ..*Grand High Priest.* JACOB H. NEFF,.....*Grand King.*
JAS. LAW. ENGLISH, .*Dep. Gr. H. Priest.* STEPHEN WING,.....*Grand Scribe.*

1871.

JAS. L. ENGLISH,....*Grand High Priest.* STEPHEN WING,.....*Grand King.*
JACOB H. NEFF,.....*Dep. Gr. H. Priest.* *JOSEPH ISAACS,.....*Grand Scribe.*

1872.

JACOB H. NEFF,*Grand High Priest.* WM. THOMAS REYNOLDS,....*Grand King.*
*JOSEPH ISAACS,.....*Dep. Gr. H. Priest.* WM. ALEX. JANUARY,.....*Grand Scribe.*

1873.

WM. A. DAVIES,....*Grand High Priest.* WM. THOMAS REYNOLDS,...*Grand King.*
*JOSEPH ISAACS,.....*Dep. Gr. H. Priest.* WM. ALEXANDER JANUARY,..*Grand Scribe.*

1874.

WM. ALEX. JANUARY,*Grand High Priest.* JOHN MILLS BROWNE,.....*Grand King.*
WM. T. REYNOLDS,..*Dep. Gr. H. Priest.* HENRY HAY KNAPP,.....*Grand Scribe.*

1875.

WM. T. REYNOLDS,...*Grand High Priest.* HENRY HAY KNAPP,.....*Grand King.*
ALEX. G. ABELL, *Dep. Grand High Priest.* NATHAN W. SPAULDING,..*Grand Scribe.*

*Deceased.

G R A N D C H A P T E R S

IN COMMUNICATION WITH THE

G R A N D C H A P T E R O F C A L I F O R N I A .

Grand Chapters.	Grand Secretaries.	Residence.
ALABAMA,	DANIEL SAYRE,	Montgomery.
ARKANSAS,	LUKE E. BARBER,	Little Rock.
CANADA,	R. P. STEPHENS,	Ontario.
CONNECTICUT,	JOSEPH K. WHEELER,	Hartford.
DELAWARE,	J. P. ALLMOND,	Wilmington.
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,	L. G. STEPHENS,	Washington.
ENGLAND AND WALES,	JOHN HERVEY,	London.
FLORIDA,	DE WITT C. DAWKINS,	Jacksonville.
GEORGIA,	J. EMMETT BLACKSHEAR,	Macon.
ILLINOIS,	JAMES H. MILES,	Chicago.
INDIANA,	JOHN M. BRAMWELL,	Indianapolis.
IOWA,	WILLIAM B. LANGHIDGE,	Muscatine.
KANSAS,	ERASMUS T. CARR,	Leavenworth
KENTUCKY,	JOHN M. S. MCCORKLE,	Louisville.
LOUISIANA,	JAMES C. BATCHELOR,	New Orleans.
MAINE,	IRA BERRY,	Portland.
MARYLAND,	WILLIAM A. WENTZ,	Baltimore.
MASSACHUSETTS,	Z. H. THOMAS,	Cambridgeport.
MICHIGAN,	J. EASTMAN JOHNSON,	Centreville.
MINNESOTA,	E. D. B. PORTER,	St. Paul.
MISSISSIPPI,	J. L. POWER,	Jackson.
MISSOURI,	GEO. FRANK GOULEY, ...	St. Louis.
NEBRASKA,	WILLIAM R. BOWEN,	Omaha.
NEVADA,	SAMUEL W. CHUBBUCK,	Gold Hill.
NEW HAMPSHIRE,	JOHN A. HARRIS,	Concord.
NEW JERSEY,	THOMAS J. CORSON,	Trenton.
NEW YORK,	CHRISTOPHER G. FOX,	Buffalo.
NORTH CAROLINA,	T. M. GARDNER,	Wilmington.
NOVA SCOTIA,	JAMES GOSSIP,	Halifax.
OHIO,	JAMES NESBIT,	Cincinnati.
OREGON,	R. P. EARHEART,	Salem.
PENNSYLVANIA,	JOHN THOMSON,	Philadelphia.
RHODE ISLAND,	GEORGE H. BURNHAM,	Providence.
SOUTH CAROLINA,	MYER B. MOSES,	Sumter.
TENNESSEE,	JOHN FRIZELL,	Nashville.
TEXAS,	ROBERT BREWSTER,	Houston.
VERMONT,	W. H. S. WHITCOMB,	Burlington.
VIRGINIA,	JOHN DOVE,	Richmond.
WEST VIRGINIA,	ODELL S. LONG,	Wheeling.
WISCONSIN, ...	JOHN W. WOODHULL,	Berlin.

REPRESENTATIVES

Of other Jurisdictions near the Grand Chapter of California.

Canada,	CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, Grand Secretary, ..	<i>San Francisco ;</i>
District of Columbia,	CHARLES MARSH, Past Grand H. P.,	<i>Nevada ;</i>
Louisiana,	THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL, P. G. H. P., ..	<i>Nevada ;</i>
New York,	CHARLES MARSH, Past Grand H. P.,	<i>Nevada ;</i>
Nova Scotia,	CHARLES MARSH, Past Grand H. P.,	<i>Nevada ;</i>
Maine,	CHARLES MARSH, Past Grand H. P.,	<i>Nevada ;</i>
Massachusetts,	CHARLES MARSH, Past Grand H. P.,	<i>Nevada ;</i>
Mississippi,	GEORGE TUTTLE GRIMES, Past Grand H. P., ...	<i>San Francisco ;</i>
South Carolina,	CHARLES MARSH, Past Grand H. P.,	<i>Nevada.</i>

REPRESENTATIVES

OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF CALIFORNIA

Near other Grand Chapters.

Canada,	HENRY MCPHERSON,	<i>Owen Sound, Ont'o ;</i>
Iowa,	WILLIAM LANGRIDGE,	<i>Muscatine ;</i>
Louisiana,	J. Q. A. FELLOWS,	<i>New Orleans ;</i>
Maine,	JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND,	<i>Portland ;</i>
Nebraska,	E. A. ALLEN,	<i>Omaha ;</i>
New Jersey,	EDWARD GOELLER,	<i>Trenton ;</i>
New York,	JOHN L. LEWIS,	<i>New York ;</i>
Tennessee,	TOWNSEND A. THOMAS,	<i>Nashville.</i>

Grand Convention
OF THE
ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTS,
OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

Sixteenth Annual Convention.

The sixteenth Annual Grand Convention of the Order of High Priests of the State of California, assembled at the Masonic Temple, in the City of San Francisco, on Wednesday, the fourteenth day of April, 1875, at eight o'clock, P. M.

There were present the following

OFFICERS :

The M.: E.: WILLIAM WILSON TRAYLOR,.....*President ;*
 " R.: E.: CHARLES MARSH,..... *Vice President ;*
 " R.: E.: HIRAM THROOP GRAVES, *Treasurer ;*
 " R.: E.: THEODORE EDWARD SMITH,..... *Recorder ;*
 " R.: E.: CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,..... *Herald :*

Also, Companions ANDREW HENDERSON BRODER, JAMES LAWRENCE ENGLISH, ADOLPHUS LEIGH FITZGERALD, SAMUEL GRAVES, EDWARD RICHARD HEDGES, HENRY HAY KNAPP, JOHN ERNEST KUNKLER, WILLIAM THOMPSON LUTHER, RICHARD MUNT, JACOB HART NEFF, HENRY SAYRE ORME, JAMES MARTIN RODGERS, JAMES ROSS, EDWIN ALDRICH RODGER, JOHN DODD SKINNER, WILEY JAMES TINNIN, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN TUTTLE, JEREMIAH ELKINS WHITCHER, GEORGE HEIRN GILBERT, WILLIAM MUNROE PETRIE, SAMUEL POWELL LAWSON, ADONIRAM JUDSON LOOMIS.

The M.: E.: President made the following appointments, *pro tempore* :—

Comp. JAMES LAWRENCE ENGLISH,.....*Chaplain ;*
 " WILEY JAMES TINNIN,..... *Master of Ceremonies ;*
 " HIRAM THROOP GRAVES,..... *Conductor ;*
 " HENRY SAYRE ORME,..... *Herald ;*
 " JEREMIAH ELKINS WHITCHER,..... *Steward :*

And the convention was opened in *Due Form.*

The reading of the minutes of the proceedings had at the last Annual Convention was dispensed with, the members being furnished with printed copies thereof.

Petitions were received from the following named Companions:—

JOHN WHITTON SURFACE,.....	High Priest, of Sutter	Chapter, No. 11
ANDREW JACKSON BINNEY,.....	" " " Washington	" " 13
CHAS. FITZGERALD IRWIN,.....	" " " St. James	" " 16
EDWARD COLEMAN,.....	" " " Grass Valley	" " 18
JOHN CHILTON BURCH,.....	" " " Trinity	" " 19
DANIEL WEBSTER PRATT,.....	" " " Oakland	" " 26
GEORGE ALEX. MCKENZIE.....	" " " Stockton	" " 28
BENJ. WILCOX BARNES,.....	" " " Alturas	" " 34
THOS. JEFFERSON ARNOLD,.....	" " " Alameda	" " 36
JAMES WATERS,.....	" " " Temple	" " 41
STEPHEN KIRBY NURSE,.....	" " " Solana	" " 43
THOMAS CROSS POCKMAN,.....	P. H. Priest, of Woodland	" " 46
CHARLES HENRY DAVIS,	" " " Woodland	" " 46

Who were severally elected to receive the Order of High Priest.

Companions AMBROSE HALL COWDEN and GEORGE FAYETTE MALLET, who were elected at the last Annual Convention, together with those companions who were elected at the present session were then introduced and received the Order of High Priest.

The following named companions were then elected officers for the ensuing year:—

The M. E. JAMES LAWRENCE ENGLISH,.....	President;
" R. E. CHARLES MARSH,.....	Vice President;
" R. E. WILLIAM WILSON TRAYLOR,.....	Chaplain;
" R. E. HIRAM THROOP GRAVES,.....	Treasurer;
" R. E. THEODORE EDWARD SMITH,.....	Recorder;
" R. E. WILEY JAMES TINNIN,.....	Master of Ceremonies;
" R. E. WILLIAM ABRAHAM DAVIES,.....	Conductor;
" R. E. WILLIAM MONROE PETRIE,.....	Herald;
" R. E. JEREMIAH ELKINS WHITCHER,.....	Steward.

There being no further business, the Grand Convention was closed in Due Form.

ATTEST :

THEODORE EDWARD SMITH, *Recorder.*

Officers and Members

OF THE

Grand Convention of High Priests.

OFFICERS:

<p>James Lawrence English, <i>President</i>, Charles Marsh, <i>Vice President</i>, William Wilson Traylor, <i>Chaplain</i>, Hiram Throop Graves, <i>Treasurer</i>, Jeremiah Elkins Whitcher, <i>Steward</i>.</p>	<p>Theodore Edward Smith, <i>Recorder</i>, Wiley James Tinnin, <i>Master Ceremonies</i>, William Abraham Davies, <i>Conductor</i>, William Monroe Petrie, <i>Herald</i>.</p>
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MEMBERS :

<p>Akerly, Benjamin Anderson, Elias Arnold, Thomas Jefferson Abell, Alexander Gurdon Bacon, Ely Griffith Barss, Frederick Ferdinand Barnes, Benjamin Wilcox Bicknell, Jas. Witherspoon Binney, Andrew Jackson Blair, Charles Macmurdo Bond, Joshua Lester Brady, Alex. Buchanan Brown, Josiah Perkins Brown, Thomas Allen Browne, John Mills Broder, Andrew Henderson Burke, John Martin Burch, John Chilton Bystle, David Porter Besse, John Nelson Blake, George Mansfield Callow, Thomas Caswell, Thomas Hubbard Chalmers, Alexander Christiansen, Olo Christian Claiborne, Gilbert Burnett Cohn Louis Coleman, Edward Crandall, John Riggs Creigh, John Dunbar</p>	<p>Crouch, Robert Davis, Edwin Ransom Davis, Charles Henry Dobrowsky, Adolph Dods, James Doncaster, Richard Jr. Doncaster, Samuel Ellis, Ralph Ellen, Elle Fitzgerald, Adolphus Leigh Foster, Francis Gardner, Melvin Syms Gilbert, George Heirn Glover, James Russell Goss, Leonard Graves, Samuel Graham, Thomas Jefferson Grimes, George Tuttle Harden, John B. Hayes, Russell Thayer Hayward, Alvinza Hedges, Edward Richard Hewson, John Bankson Hilton, Osgood Hollub, Adolphus Hoadley, James Henry Hichborn, Alex'er Hopkins Hunter, Geo. Washington Irwin, Charles Fitzgerald January, Wm. Alexander</p>	<p>Joy, Alexander Cartwright Jump, Alemby Kingsley, James Forman Kirkpatrick, John Knapp, Henry Hay Knox, William Franklin Knorp, Albert Frederick Kunkler, John Ernest Kyle, Thomas Laidley, James Lanphier, Gilbert Lawrence, William Lee Lawson, Samuel Powell Lott, Charles Fayette Luther, William Thompson Lyon, William Henry Leech, Reuben Loomis, Adoniram Judson May, George Mason, John Clifton Mason, Carnot Courtland McCormick, William McFarlan, Abel McMurry, Valentine McKenzie, George Alex. Menzies, Stewart Merkle, Peter R. Millington, John Myres, Benjamin Franklin Myrick, Milton Hills</p>
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Munt, Richard	Reynolds, William Thomas	Skinner, John Dodd
McBride, John Storer	Rich, William Clifton	Spear, Willard Smith
Neff, Jacob Hart	Rolfe, Tallman Hathaway	Titus, Isaac Sutvene
Neville, John M.	Rodgers, James Martin	Turner, Jared
Newton, William Davis	Rodgers, Edwin Aldrich	Tuttle, Benjamin Franklin
Nurse, Stephen Kirby	Ross, James	Waite, Alfred Coolidge
O'Rear, Benj. Threlkeld	Routh, William	Wales, Thatcher Peter
Orme, Henry Sayre	Ryan, William Henry	Walker, George Russell
Parkhurst, Russel	Russell, Henry Warren	Warner, Henry
Park, Aaron Davis	Sage, Timothy	Waters, James
Peck, Henry	Seely, John Ambrose	Wells, William Sewall
Perkins, Geo. Washington	Siesbuttel, Alexander	Weymouth, James Lambert
Prassa, Francis Anthony	Singley, James	Wellendorff, Louis
Pond, Charles Lewis	Snow, John Francis	Wilcox, Wilbur Justin
Preston, Alvin Bacon	Spaulding, Nathan Weston	Williams, Alpheus Fuller
Pockman, Thomas Cross	Stanley, John Q. Adams	Wing, Stephen
Pratt, Daniel Webster	Sternheim, Samuel	Winterburn, Geo. Howard
Raynes, Alonzo Emery	Stone, Charles E.	Wiggin, Charles Louis
Ream, Daniel	Stone, Nathan Hosmer	

ADDRESS.

The following address on the Order of High Priesthood, by Comp. WILLIAM HACKER, President of the Council of High Priests of Indiana, we consider to be of sufficient interest to justify us in republishing it entire, for the benefit of our companions in this jurisdiction.

MY COMPANIONS, HIGH PRIESTS :—

It is not a custom in our Order for presiding officers to prepare and deliver opening addresses at our annual assemblies, as in other Grand Masonic Bodies, yet I will so far trespass upon your time as to present a few thoughts upon the origin and early history of the Order; who its authors really were, and by what authority it has been brought in and adopted as a legitimate degree in our American Rite of Freemasonry, and thus, if possible, correct the many erroneous theories which have been put forth by some of the Masonic writers of the present day, who, if they have ever been admitted to the privileges of the Order at all—as most of them claim to have been—are so totally ignorant of the subject they have undertaken to write upon, that what they have said has but produced confusion in the minds of many of our members, and led them to form very erroneous views of the origin and true history of the Order.

To set this matter in a proper light before you, and if possible, disabuse your minds of any erroneous impressions you may have received from the many theories thus put forth, and, if possible, give the true origin of the Order, is the sole object sought to be attained in addressing you at this time.

While it may be true, as one author has said, that “no allusion to it can be found in any ritual work out of America, nor even here anterior to about the end of the last or beginning of the present century,” yet I apprehend that fact should not be taken as conclusive evidence that our fathers who gave us the degree have left upon record no “authentic documents to throw much light upon the historical origin of the Order.”

Another author who has written and published in two large volumes what he claims to be a true history of Masonry, says:

“We have not yet examined the history of the origin of the Order of High Priesthood, but we do not hesitate to say that it is a thing of modern invention.”—“The hatched up traditions of this so-called Order clearly show it to have been the invention of some Masonic driveler who was totally ignorant of the true history of Freemasonry.”—“Shall we be told that because Abraham was the father of the faithful and the chosen of God, he therefore instituted the Order of High Priesthood in Masonry? We rejoice to say that a new light begins to dawn upon the craft, and that intelligent men are beginning to separate the chaff from the wheat.”—“If these modern degrees are of sufficient importance to be preserved and practiced, let them be formed into a distinct and separate organization, and by some other name than Masonry, that our time-honored and divinely instituted Order may not be polluted or encumbered by these newly-invented gewgaws.”

And all this—and much more of a similar import—from one who admits at the outset that he had “not yet examined into the history of the origin of the Order.”

But leaving these things all to go for just what they are worth, what, then, is the true origin of the Order as we have it—who were its authors, and by what authority has it been instituted and handed down to us? To set this matter in a proper light before the members of our Order, I now refer you to the following historical facts:

The Order of High Priesthood, as we have it, is exclusively of American origin, and not recognized—if at all known—beyond the Jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter of the United States. This is an important item not to be lost sight of in the investigation of the subject we have undertaken.

We then turn to the early American publications and find nothing in reference to the Order prior to the beginning of the present century. Even WEBB, in the first edition of his Monitor, published in 1797, makes no mention of it; but in his second edition, published in 1802, he gives a monitorial ritual for the Order of High Priesthood, or, as he terms it, “Observations on the Order of High Priest.” From this we may infer that at some period between these two dates we must look for the true origin of the Order.

We next turn to the published Proceedings of what is now called the General Grand Chapter of the United States, but at that time known as the "General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the Six Northern States of America." We find that Grand Body was first organized on the 26th day of January, 1798, by the adoption of a Constitution and the election of officers.

The second regular meeting—as appears from the records—was held at the city of Providence, Rhode Island, on the 9th day of January, 1799, when BENJAMIN HURD, THOMAS S. WEBB and JAMES HARRISON were appointed "a committee to revise the Constitution and report such alterations and amendments thereto as they should find necessary to be made."

On the next day, January 10th, 1799, WEBB, as the chairman of the committee, submitted their report, which, it appears, was adopted.

Article IV of that Constitution, then adopted, contains the forms for constituting new Chapters and installing the High Priests into office. Following these forms, we find that after the new Chapter has been constituted and dedicated, the companion nominated in the warrant for High Priest is presented for installation, to whom the installing officer propounds the eleven interrogations to which he responds. The installing prayer is then offered, after which—

"All the companions, except High Priests and Past High Priests, are requested to withdraw while the new High Priest is solemnly bound to the performance of his duties, and after the performance of other necessary ceremonies not proper to be written they are permitted to return."

The question here arises, what were those other necessary ceremonies not proper to be written? A few lines further on we have this language: "In consequence of your cheerful acquiescence with the charges and regulations just recited, I now declare you duly installed *and anointed* High Priest of this new Chapter." Here the words "*and anointed*" evidently give us the key by which we may fully comprehend what those "*other necessary ceremonies*" were, and most certainly and truly gives us all the information necessary to enable us to fix the date and determine the authority by which the Order of High Priesthood was instituted, as also who its officers really were.

This amended Constitution is not only signed by the General Grand Officers, viz.:

BENJAMIN HURD, General Grand High Priest;
THOMAS S. WEBB, General Grand King;
JAMES HARRISON, General Grand Scribe;
WILLIAM WOART, General Grand Secretary;
ABRAHAM L. CLARK, General Grand Chaplain:

but also by the representatives then present, viz.:

From the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts:

BENJAMIN HURD, Jr., Grand High Priest;
JAMES HARRISON, Grand Scribe.

From the Grand Chapter of Rhode Island:

SETH WHEATON, Grand High Priest;
GERSHAM JONES, Grand King;
SAMUEL EDDY, Grand Scribe.

From the Grand Chapter of New York:

DE WITT CLINTON, Grand High Priest;
THOMAS FROTHINGHAM, Grand King;
JEDEDIAH SANGER, Grand Scribe.

I have been thus particular in giving the names of all who subscribed to this provision of the Constitution, in order that you may see and know upon whom rests the responsibility of the institution of the Order of High Priesthood as we have it. And I apprehend the present generation is hardly yet prepared to write those honored names, as they stand thus recorded, as "masonic drivelers, hatching up traditions and polluting our *divinely-instituted* Order with their newly invented gewgaws."

We then have for the authors of our Order of High Priesthood: THOMAS SMITH WEBB, of *Temple Chapter*, Albany, New York; BENJAMIN HURD, Jr., and JAMES HARRISON, of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts. For the true date of its origin, January 10, 1799; and for the authority of its institution and promulgation, the General Grand Chapter of the United States of America.

This provision of the Constitution we find continued a part of that instrument until the Triennial Communication held in the city of Lexington, Kentucky, when, on the 19th day of September, 1853, it was repealed, at which time the Order of High Priesthood became the exclusive property of those who were in possession of it. It thus remained a part of the Constitutional requirements of Royal Arch Masonry from its first institution on the 10th day of January, 1799, up to the 19th day of September, 1853, a space of nearly fifty-five years.

Where our Excellent Companions got the original thought or germ out of which the Order was formed, will, perhaps, have to be left more to conjecture, yet even here I think we may find some data upon which to base a conclusion. In setting

about the formation of an Order for the Priesthood, what could be more natural than to refer to the scriptural history of the meeting of Melchisedek, Priest of the Most High God, with Abraham, the circumstances which occasioned that meeting, the bringing forth bread and wine, the blessing, etc., etc. Surely nothing could equal, or be more appropriate for the purpose than these circumstances as they stand thus recorded.

A further illustration of this point may be had in a foot-note found in an English ritual work of the past century. That note is as follows:—

“In some Priories the candidate partakes of bread from the point of the sword, and wine from a chalice placed upon the blade handed to him by the Prelate.”

Again, in an old manuscript of the past century, from Scotland, now lying before me, I find a similar idea made use of.

But the question now arises, was WEBB and his associates in possession of, or did they have a knowledge of those ritual works to which I have referred? I think they were, and for the following reasons: In those ritual works are to be found many thoughts and expressions made use of by WEBB in the arrangement of his Royal Arch Degree, which are to be found nowhere else, showing most conclusively that he was not only in possession of, but must also have been very familiar with them.

It is very evident that the committee, in arranging the ceremonies and rituals of the Order, as also the General Grand Chapter in adopting it as a part of the Constitutional requirements of Royal Arch Masonry, designed that it should be conferred as a part of the High Priest's installation ceremonies. And whether WEBB and his associates in the General Grand Chapter ever conferred it at any other time or in any other manner, I have been unable to learn. When and by whom it was first conferred as a separate ceremonial, disconnected with the installation ceremonies, is equally unknown to me. It is, however, more than probable that it has always been conferred in the West as a separate ceremonial. It is well known that Comp. JOHN SNOW—WEBB's business partner, and associated with him in teaching the American System of Masonry among the newly formed settlements west of the mountains—always conferred it as a separate ceremonial, either before or after the installation, as circumstances might indicate. And I have met with those who claim to have received the Order from the celebrated LORENZO DOW, who for a time served as High Priest of the Chapter at Vincennes, in this State, of whom it is said that he always conferred it as a separate ceremonial.

The earliest records I have yet been able to discover of the organization of a Council of High Priests as an independent organization, is in the printed Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Ohio for 1828, at which time the records show that a Council for the State was duly organized, rules for its government adopted, and a full list of officers elected, with Comp. JOHN SNOW as President of the Council as then organized. This organization, it will be observed, was twenty-five years before the General Grand Chapter had relinquished her jurisdiction over the Order. That Council, thus organized by our old and venerated companions, we find still in good working order, meeting regularly and annually for the transaction of business.

From the foregoing facts, which have been collected with much care, from such written and printed documents as have come within my reach, I am led to infer that our beautiful and most truly sublime Order, instead of being the “*georgians of Masonic drivelers*,” is as truly a legitimate Order in our American Rite of Freemasonry as any other Order or degree we have. Equally as much so as is the Royal Arch degree—adopted and made legitimate by the same constituted authority, and at about the same time as was the Royal Arch in its present form. That its true date is January 10, 1799; that THOMAS SMITH WEBB was really its author, as he was also of the M. E. and R. A. degrees as we now have them; that it was voted for and approved by such well known and much revered lights in our Mystic Temple as BENJAMIN HURD, High Priest of *St. Andrew's* Chapter, of Boston, which, no doubt, was the first Chapter organized on this continent—Rev. ABRAHAM L. CLARK, High Priest of *Providence* Chapter, No. 2, Rhode Island, and the Hon. DE WITT OLINTON, Grand High Priest of New York; that it continued a part of the constitutional regulations of Royal Arch Masonry until the 19th of September, 1853, more than fifty-four years, when it was surrendered by the General Grand Chapter exclusively to such duly organized Councils of High Priests, as might assume control of it. And that Comp. JOHN SNOW, the Grand High Priest of Ohio—the life-long companion and associate of Comp. WEBB, and his successor in teaching and propagating R. A. Masonry in the West—was the first to organize a regular council of High Priests for the purpose of conferring the Order in a regular and legitimate manner, separate and apart from the installation ceremonies.

A few thoughts now as to the introduction of the Order in our own State, and I will have done.

Comp. THOMAS BISHOP, of Vincennes, informs us that he received the Order in Toronto, Canada, in the year 1818; that in 1820 he removed to Vincennes, in this State, where he still resides. On arriving at Vincennes he found Comp. JAMES T. MOFFETT acting High Priest of what is now *Vincennes* Chapter, No. 7, upon the Reg-

istry of our own Grand Chapter, and in possession of the Order of High Priesthood. About 1825 LORENZO DOW came to Vincennes, and after visiting the Lodge for some time, applied for and was made a Royal Arch Mason in Vincennes Chapter, and was subsequently elected High Priest of the Chapter, when Comps. BISHOP and MOFFETT conferred the Order of High Priesthood upon him.

This very satisfactorily explains how Comp. Dow came in possession of the Order, but leaves the manner, as well as the time that Comp. MOFFETT received it, wholly in the dark; and as Comp. MOFFETT has several years since passed away and left upon record nothing that we know of by which we could arrive at a satisfactory solution of the matter, it must therefore be left wholly to conjecture.

It is well known that in 1818 our then acting Grand Master, ALEXANDER BUCKNER, invited THOMAS SMITH WEBB to visit and instruct the several Lodges then at work in this State in his particular mode of work; that in the summer or fall of that year JOHN SNOW came, and in a most satisfactory manner performed the duties required of him. But as the Chapter at Vincennes was not organized until after the 13th day of May, 1820, Comp. MOFFETT could not then have received the Order from Comp. SNOW, unless he had served as High Priest at some other point before removing to Vincennes.

From the private journal of Comp. WEBB, as also from the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter, we learn that on the 8th day of May, 1818, WEBB, as Deputy Grand High Priest, issued charters for the formation of Royal Arch Chapters at Madison and Brookville, in this State, the first of which is still at work and known on the registry of our Grand Chapter as *Madison Chapter, No. 1*. Now, it is more than probable that the organization of these Chapters was what brought Comp. SNOW to Indiana in the summer of 1818, as before stated, at which time Comp. MOFFETT may have been present and in some way, being entitled to it, did then receive the Order from Comp. SNOW.

Be these things as they may, the conferring of the Order upon Comp. Dow by Comps. BISHOP and MOFFETT in 1825, is the first positive assurance we have of the Order being conferred within the bounds of our State; and the two or three upon whom Comp. Dow may have conferred it, doubtless constituted the entire work that was done in this State until after the anti-masonic persecution—which arose soon after that time—had passed away; for we well know that during the ten years from 1826 to 1836, while that storm raged, the craft in this jurisdiction quietly rested upon their oars until the storm had ceased.

We have no further records or knowledge of the Order having been conferred within our state until during the communication of the Grand Chapter on the 26th day of May, 1848, when a council of High Priests was held, presided over by Comp. SAMUEL REED, of Ohio, when CALER SCHMIDLAP, ALEX. C. DOWNEY, HENRY C. LAWRENCE and C. S. RAMSEY were duly admitted to the Order. Again in 1849 and 1850 these informal Councils were held and several others admitted to the Order. This finished the work of our Order in this State until the session of the Grand Chapter in 1853, when, on the 19th day of May, a Council was again held, and the Order duly conferred upon ten companions, your present presiding officer being one of that number.

At this meeting of the High Priests the necessary preliminary steps were taken and our present Council of High Priests for the State of Indiana was duly organized, and a code of rules adopted for its government. These rules were revised and a code of by-laws adopted by the Council, May 17, 1859. From thenceforth our progress has been steady and constant, until now we find our Order of Priesthood second in character, popularity, and usefulness to no other department in our Mystic Rite.

Before closing I wish to place upon record for your information, as also for the information of those who may come after us, that—as some of you already know—the ritual work we have been using in our Council for the past sixteen years was obtained by myself from the ritual of Comp. JOHN SNOW; and as I was assured at the time, and still believe, was the original work as adopted by the General Grand Chapter in 1799, slightly modified or changed by Comp. SNOW, so that it might be separately conferred from the installation ceremonies. Be this as it may, however, with the ritual we have been using these past years, the Order has steadily increased and become exceedingly popular with our companions, and deservedly so, too, as you all have fully realized.

Then, in conclusion, my companions, let me exhort you as you value your honor as men and as Masons, as you prize the purity and permanency of the Order, that under no circumstances whatever, you permit innovations to be made or fancies brought in to mar the beauty and solemnity of the Order; but preserve inviolate every pledge you have made, and perform with fidelity every duty imposed by our solemn ceremonies, that when the sun of life is fast declining beyond the horizon, and but a few sands remaining in your glass, each may with confidence look up to our GREAT HIGH PRIEST, who has entered into the Heavens for us, and from his hands receive a glorious welcome into everlasting life.

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WILLIAM THOMAS REYNOLDS, San Francisco.

Address of the Grand Secretary:

CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, San Francisco.

Address of the Grand Lecturer:

THOMAS HUBBARD CASWELL, Nevada.

ADDRESS OF THE CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE:

CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN, San Francisco.



NOTICE.

The Twenty-second Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of California will be holden at the Masonic Temple, in the city of San Francisco, commencing on the second Tuesday in April, A. I. 2406, A. D. 1876.

CHARLES LOUIS WIGGIN,

Grand Secretary.

